

PAIRYTALE

24



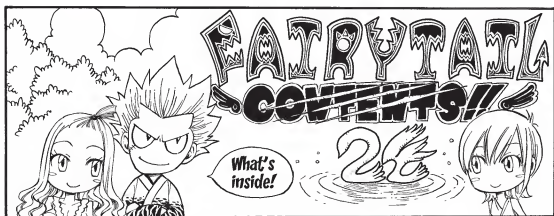
Hiro Mashima
Creator of Rave Master

FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル



HIRO MASHIMA



Chapter 197: Bye-Bye Fairy Tail	3
Chapter 198: The Wings to Tomorrow	23
Chapter 199: Lisanna	43
Chapter 200: He Who Snuffs Out Life	63
Chapter 201: Trial	87
Chapter 202: Best Partner	107
Chapter 203: Eight Roads	127
Chapter 204: Who Is the Lucky One?	147
Translation Notes	175

FAIRY TAIL

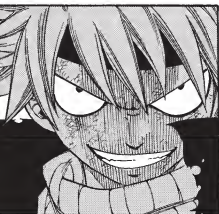
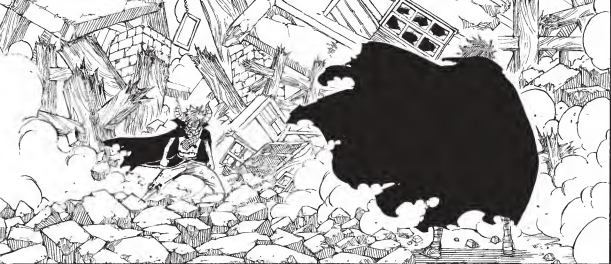
フェアリーテイル

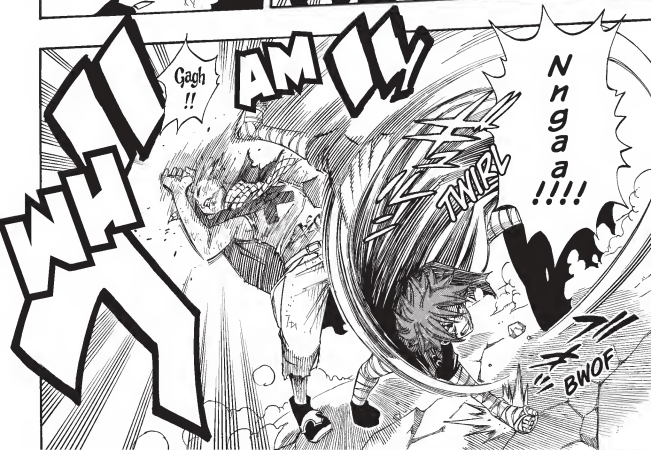
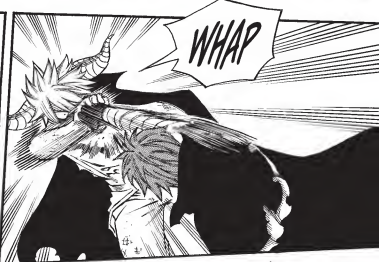
Chapter 197: Bye-Bye Fairy Tail

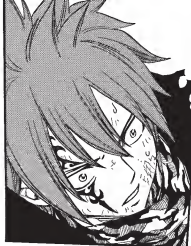












Hang in there!!!

Take him down!!!

Way to go, Prince!

Right!



If you're faking this, why don't you take your fall now?

You idiot!!



The audience is getting into it.



You bastard, he's our prince...

Prince !!

Nooo !!



This is a Fairy Tail send-off party done my way!



Lemme tell you the three rules for anybody who wants to leave Fairy Tail.



Don't wanna !!!!



What was two again?

Two...



You can't pass along any info that hurts Fairy Tail for your entire life!

One!



Even when you screw up...

...you gotta live your life with all the strength you got all the time!



Three!



One must never contact former Fairy Tail clients without permission in order to make a profit for oneself.

Yeah, that.

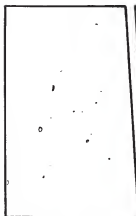


...the friends you love.



And you can't ever forget...

You can't go thinking of your life as something small or not worth it!



Mystogan!

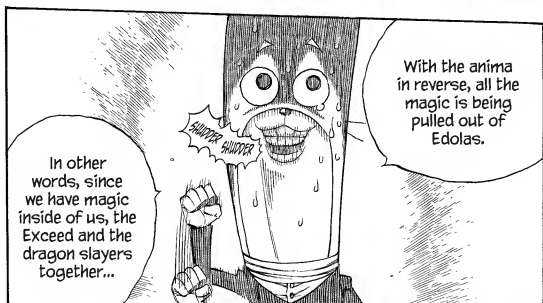
Hope we
meet again
someday...

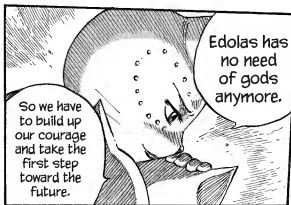
RAAAAH

Natsu
...

RAA

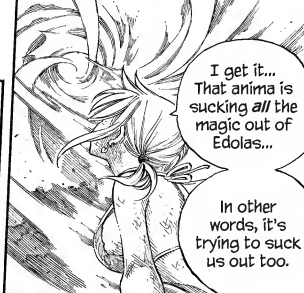
AH







So you're saying that all the magic is really being sucked out of our world...?



In other words, it's trying to suck us out too.

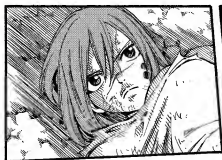
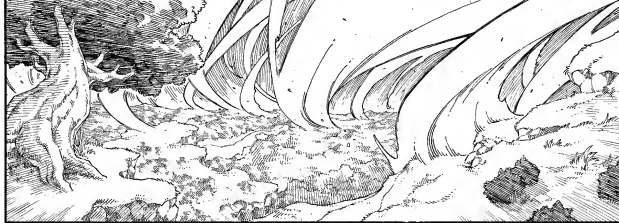


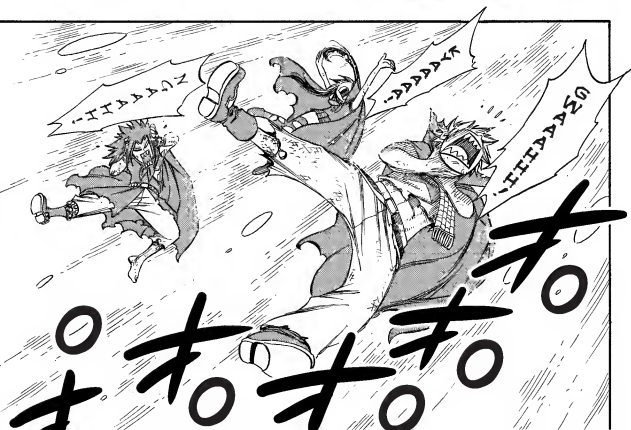
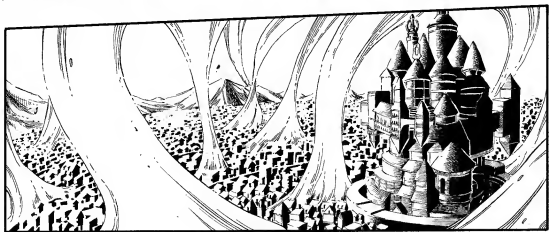
Are you saying that without magic, you can't have a guild?



CLENCH

It's the friends you got...





おおおおお

Long
live the
Prince
!!!!

Prince
!!!!

The
Prince
saved us
all!!!

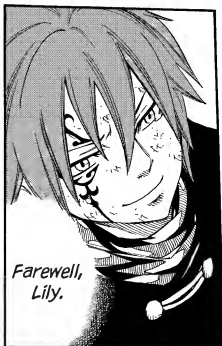
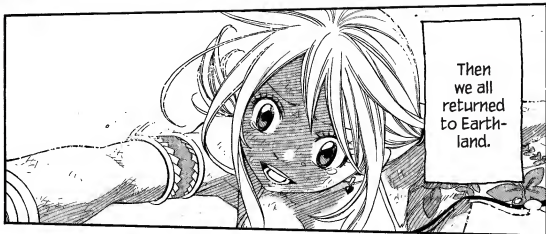
The
Demon
King is
being
blown
away!!!

ohhh!

It's pulling
people up with
it...? I didn't
expect that!









*Farewell
to Fairy
Tail, my
family.*

*And
Natsu...
Gajeel...
Wendy...*

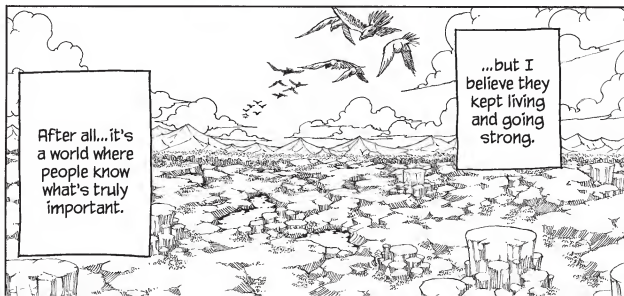




I have
defeated the
Demon God
Dragneel
without
magic!!!!

Even
without any
magic...

...we
humans
can live
on!!!!



After all...it's
a world where
people know
what's truly
important.

...but I
believe they
kept living
and going
strong.

FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

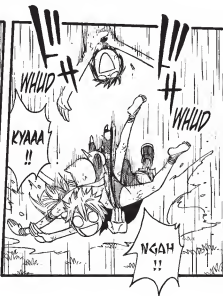
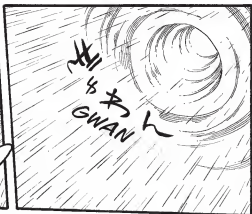
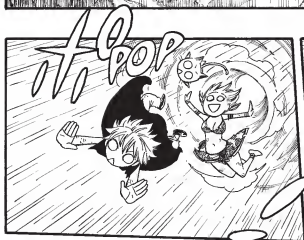
Chapter 198: The Wings to Tomorrow

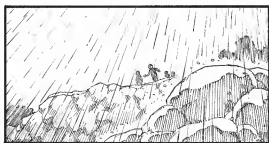


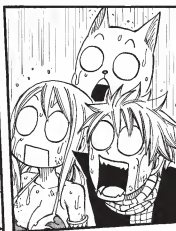


HI HI HI HI...
FSHHH...

Earth-
land...







FWISSH

These creatures are dangerous! We have to send them back to Edolas!

This is no laughing matter!



Extalia has been destroyed. Why don't you let them stay?

Now, now...

No!



CHUSH



But we've got no place to go back to!

We apologize for throwing those rocks!

We're sorry!

We're going to change our ways!

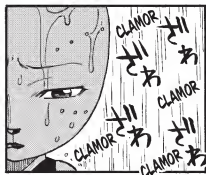
Please forgive us!





You people
gave me
an **order**
to murder
a dragon
slayer and
sent me to
Earth-
land!!!

I don't
care
about
that!!!



CLAMOR
CLAMOR
CLAMOR
CLAMOR



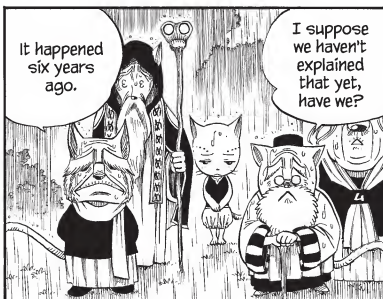
Ah/
Mister
...

I won't let
you forget
about
that!!

She's
right!! The
Queen went
and stole
our egg!!



We did mention
that the Queen
can see bits
of the future,
correct?



It happened
six years
ago.

I suppose
we haven't
explained
that yet,
have we?

...but at the time, we were convinced that the humans were the cause.

In hindsight, it was caused naturally by the extraction of all the magic from Edolas...

One day, Chagot foresaw that Extalia would crash to the ground.

...and devised a plan that would allow 100 children to escape from Edolas.

...so we held a conference.

We knew who the victor would be if we went to war with the humans...

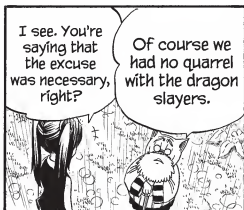
Publicly, we said it was a plan to eliminate the threat of the monstrous, otherworldly dragon slayers.

We executed the plan in secret, hiding it even from the people of Extalia.

Did you say *escape* ?!!

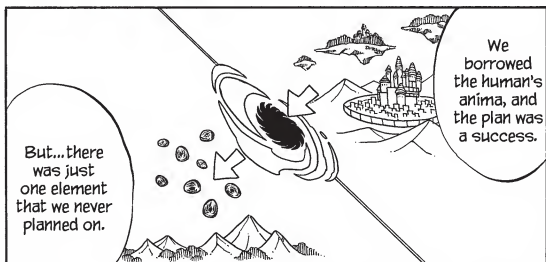


And if the
real reason
got out,
it would
probably have
caused a
panic.



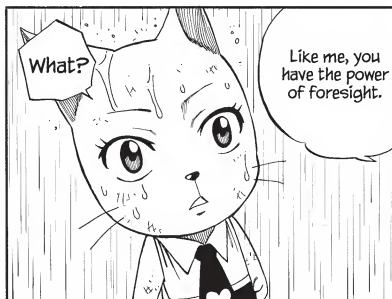
I see. You're
saying that
the excuse
was necessary,
right?

Of course we
had no quarrel
with the dragon
slayers.



But...there
was just
one element
that we never
planned on.

We
borrowed
the human's
anima, and
the plan was
a success.



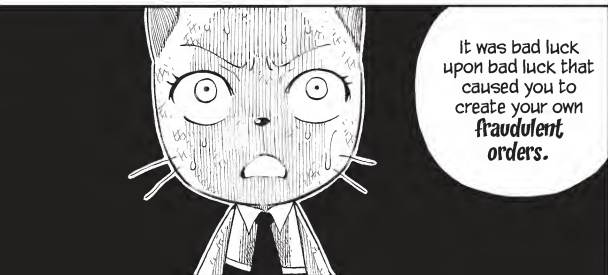
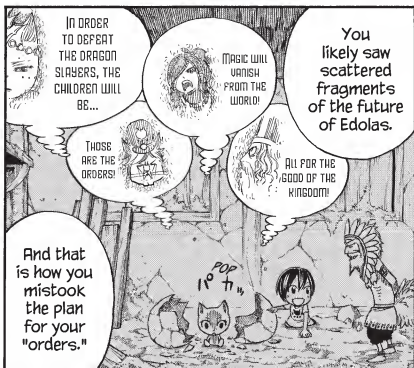
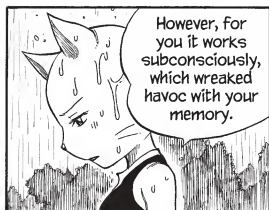
What?

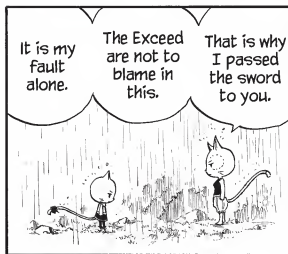
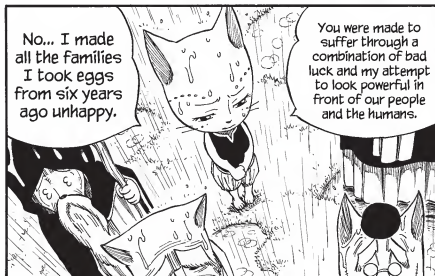
Like me, you
have the power
of foresight.



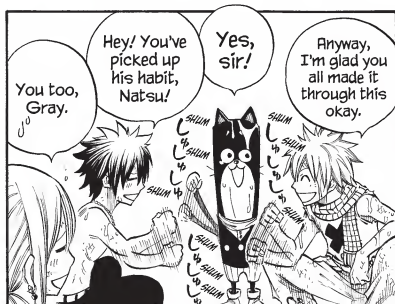
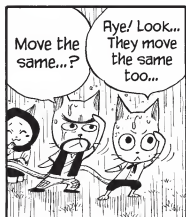
?!

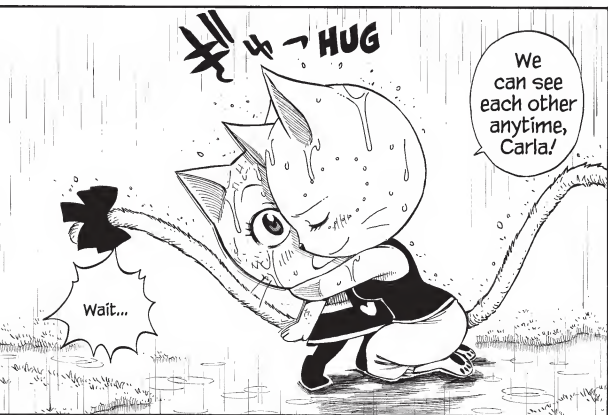
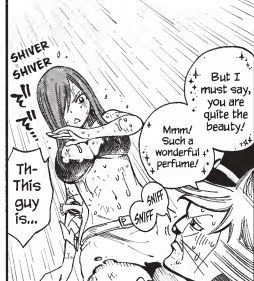
That was
your ability,
Carla.

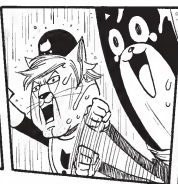
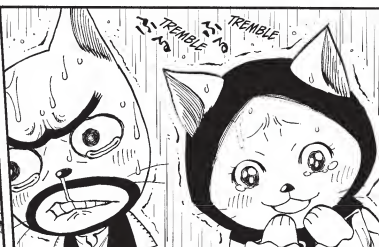








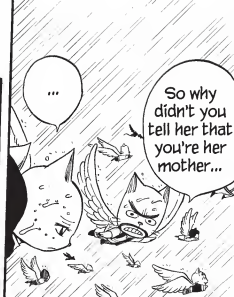






Not until the day we have found all of the children I sent to this world...

...will I have the right to admit that.



...

So why didn't you tell her that you're her mother...

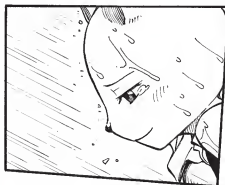


You can see her anytime now!



You asked that of the Queen, honey, but...

Kaaah! I can't call a kid that "blue" my son!!!



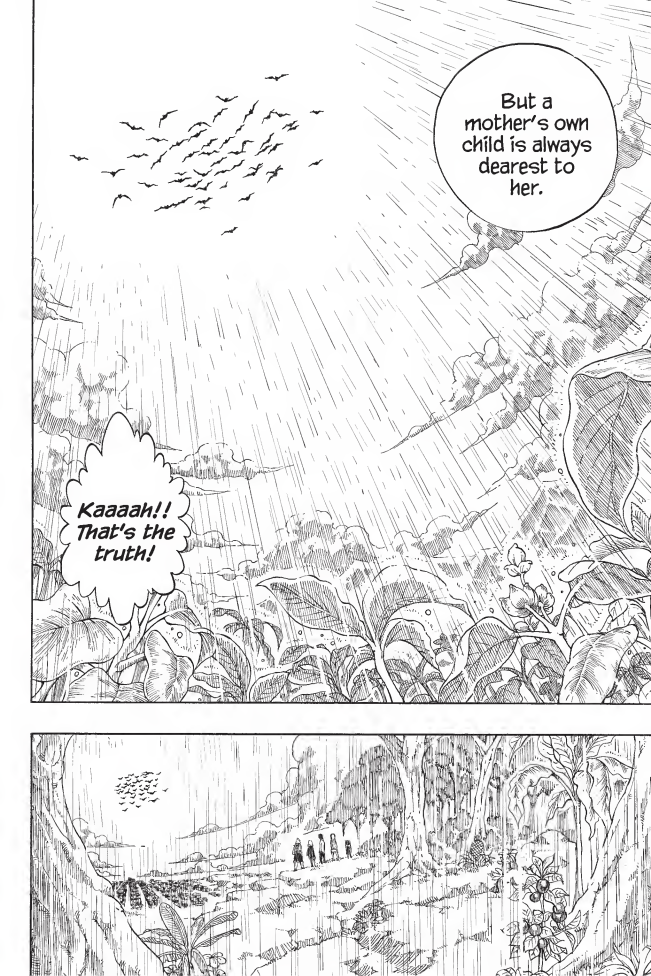
I'm a queen in name only.



Uh... You see...

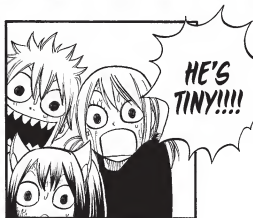
But I'm wondering... Um...

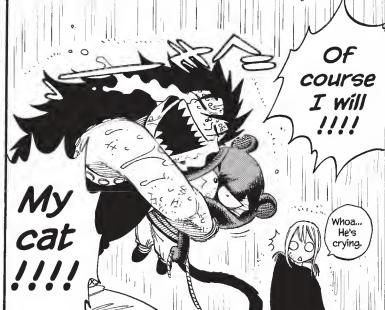
I never knew you sent your own egg along with the others.

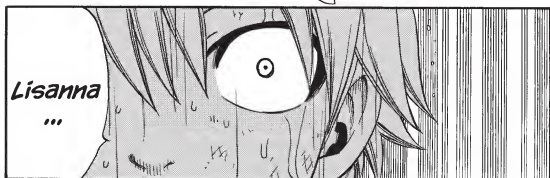


But a
mother's own
child is always
dearest to
her.

*Kaaaah!!
That's the
truth!*







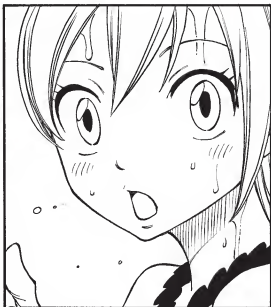
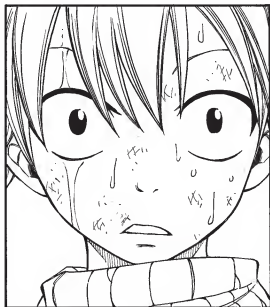
FAIRY TAIL

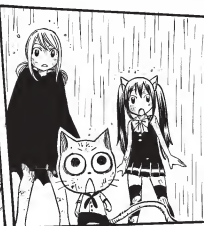
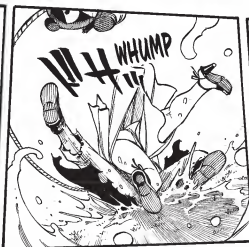
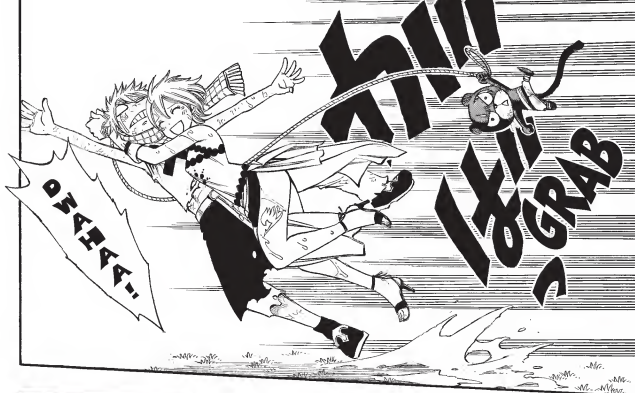
フェアリーテイル

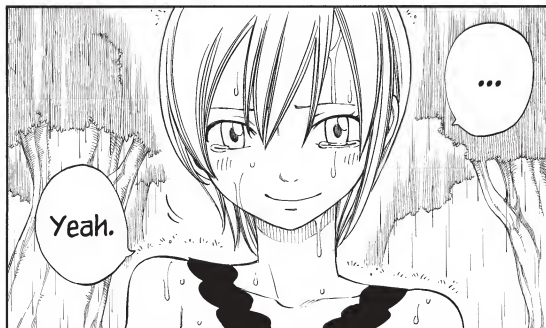
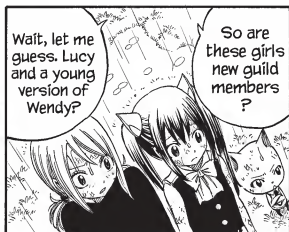
Chapter 199: Lisanna

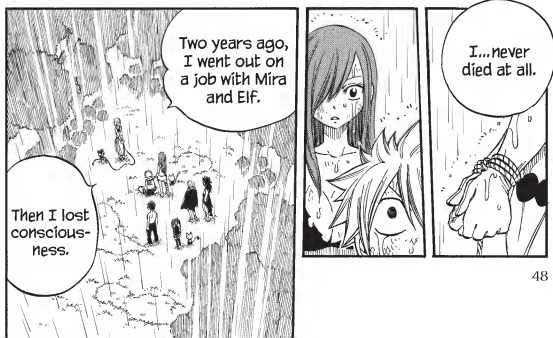
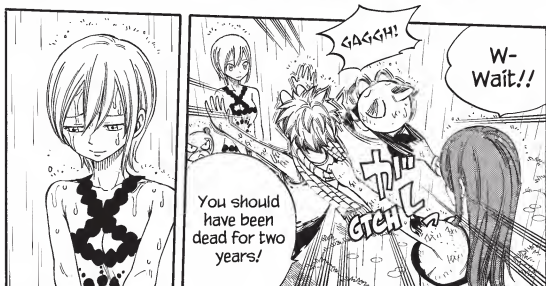










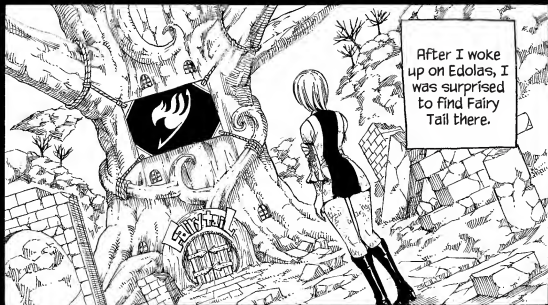




Back then
there were a
lot of small
anima all
over Earth-
land.



I can only
guess that I
was sucked
through the
anima.



After I woke
up on Edolas, I
was surprised
to find Fairy
Tail there.



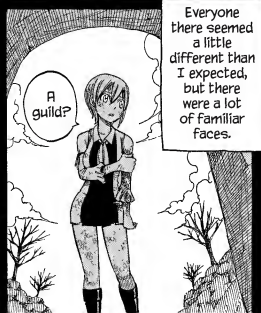
Lisanna
has
come
back!

Ohh!

Lis-
anna!

Everyone
there
mistook
me for
the Edolas
Lisanna.

My guess
is the
Lisanna of
Edolas...



Everyone
there seemed
a little
different than
I expected,
but there
were a lot
of familiar
faces.

A
guild?

YAAAAAAA!!

...might
have been
dead
already.

I just
got that
impression
from the
mood of
the guild.

Lisanna
...!!!

Don't ever
leave us
again...

No...
Um...

After you
fell from that
height... we
were so sure that
you had...

Mira,
Lisanna is
alive!!!

WAAAAH

I wasn't
able to tell
them the
truth.

So I
pretended
to be the
Edolas
Lisanna.

I'm
home.

...



And two
years
later...



I hid my
magic...

...and
got used
to life on
Edolas.

At first
I was
really dis-
oriented
...

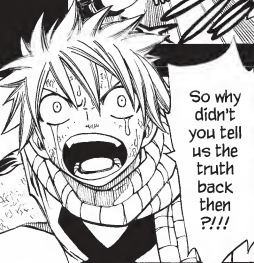
...but I
tried to
fit in.



...Earth-
land Natsu
and Happy
appeared.

Lisanna
!!!!

...six
days
ago...

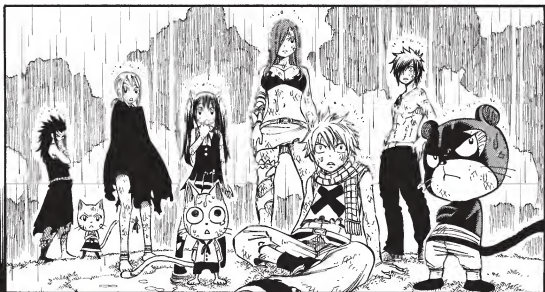
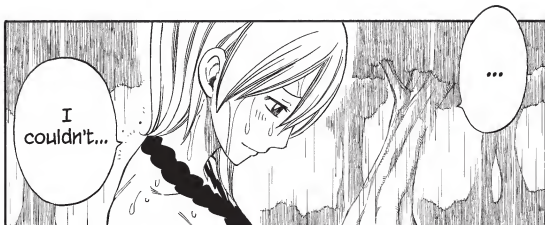


So why
didn't
you tell
us the
truth
back
then?
!!!!



Natsu...?!
Is this the
Natsu I
know?

And
is that
Happy?





And I won't let anything stop me!!!!

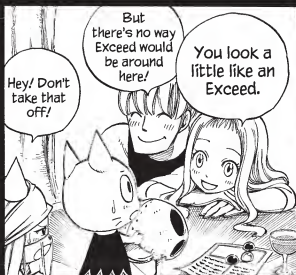
I'm going out to save my friends!!!!



It's a pretty hard story to believe...

Still...this Natsu here doesn't seem much like the Natsu we know.

ヒキヒキ
CHATTER



Hey! Don't take that off!

But there's no way Exceed would be around here!

You look a little like an Exceed.



It's Natsu...

That's the Natsu and Happy that I know...



Hm? What's wrong, Lisanna?



And
keep on
living
here on
Edolas...



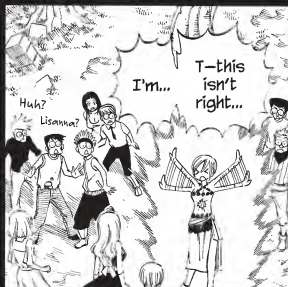
I just
have to
grit my
teeth
and
bear
it!!!

...when all
the magic
on Edoias
was sucked
up through
the anima...

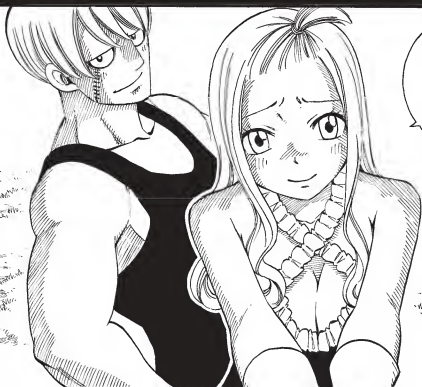
And
every-
body
from the
other
Fairy
Tail!!!!

Bye-
bye,
Edo-
Lucy
!!!!

But
then...



...since I was
originally
from Earth-
land too, I...



It's all
right... We
already
knew.



Sorry.

We
knew, but
we couldn't
put it into
words.



Eh?



Go back
to your
own world,
Lisanna.



Mira
...

Elf...



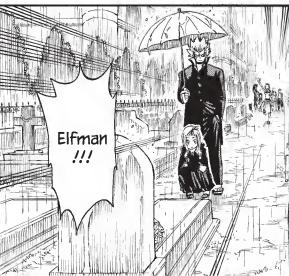
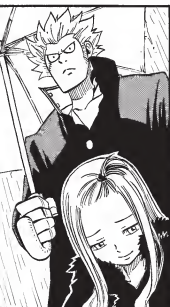
You're a
really gentle
girl, just
like our late
sister.

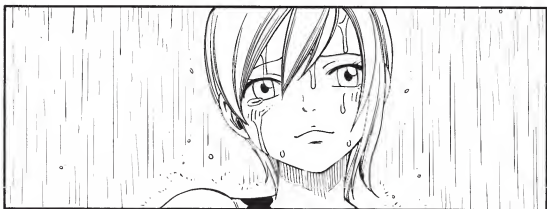
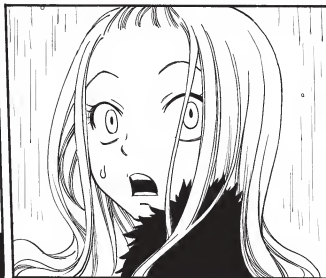
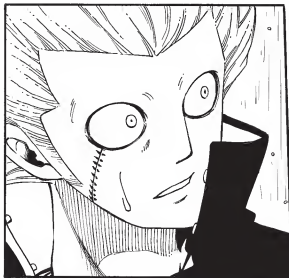
So
you can't
make your
real brother
and sister
suffer any
more.

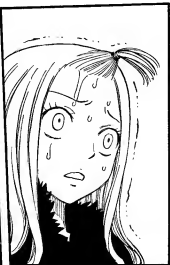
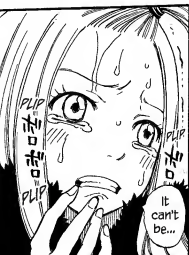
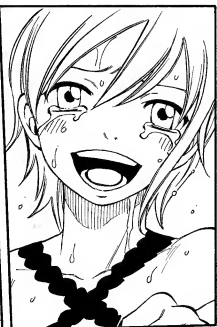
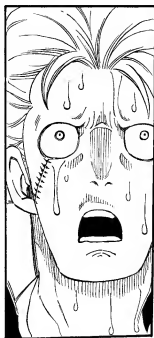


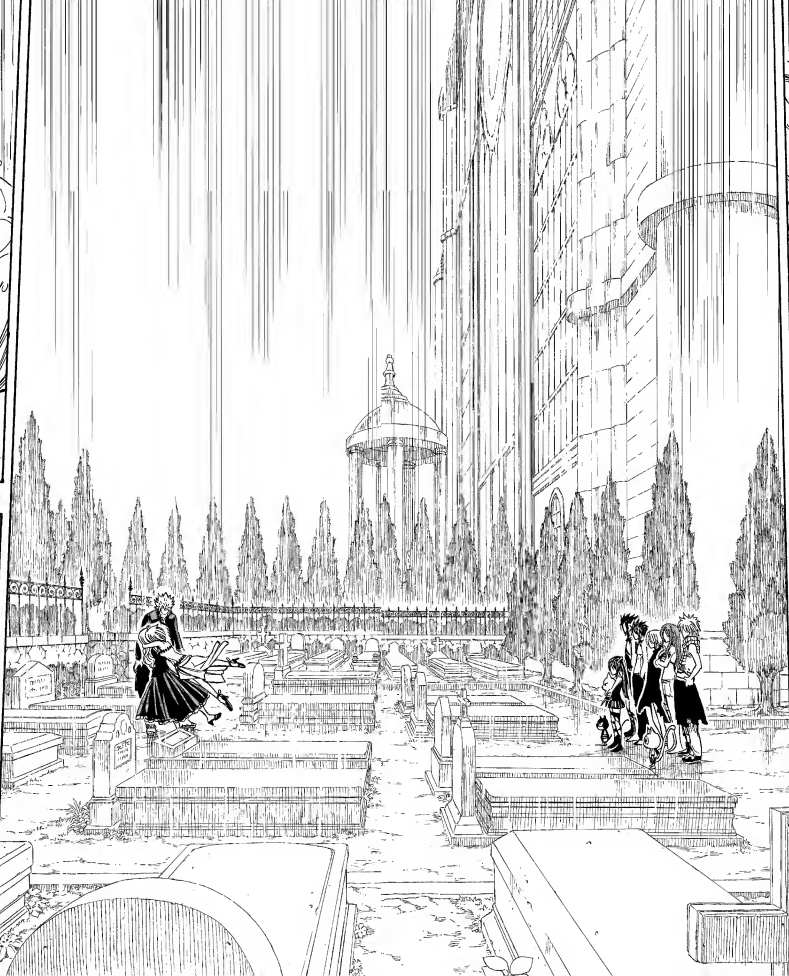
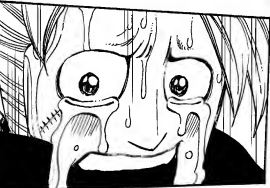
**Mira
!!!!**

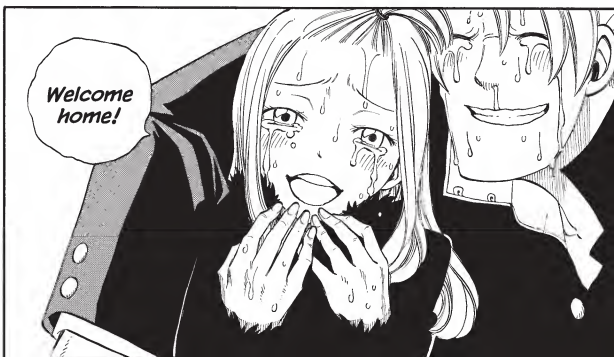
And give the
"us" in Earth-
land our best,
okay?

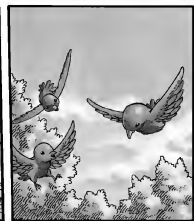
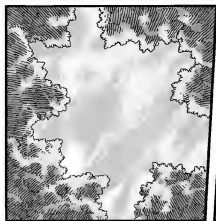
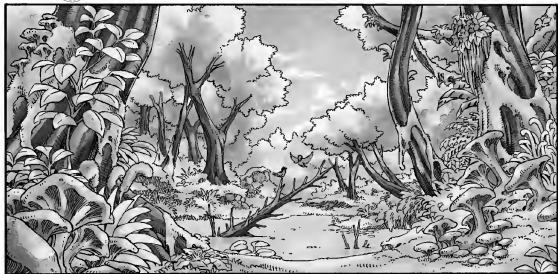










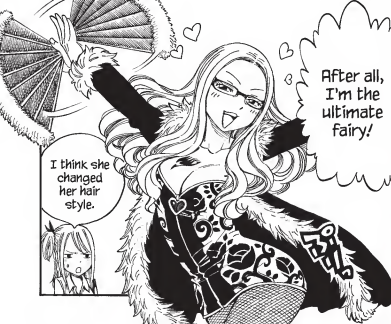


Chapter 200: He Who Snuffs Out Life



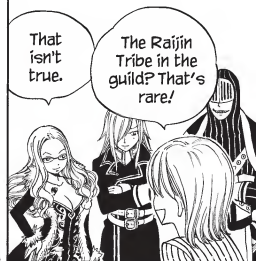


FAIRY TAIL
フェアリーテイル



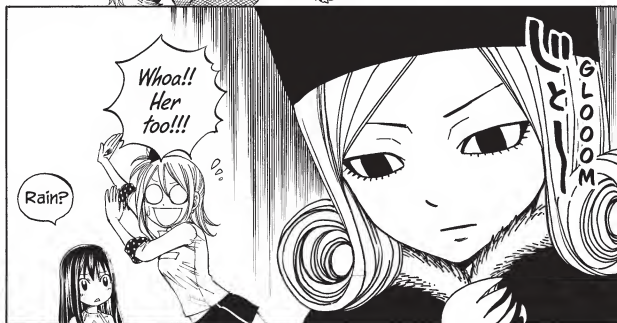
After all,
I'm the
ultimate
fairy!

I think she
changed
her hair
style.



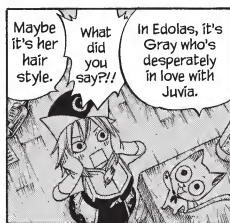
That
isn't
true.

The Raijin
Tribe in the
guild? That's
rare!



Whoa!!
Her
too!!!

Rain?



Maybe
it's her
hair
style.

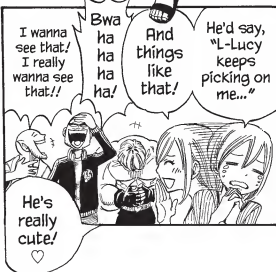
What
did
you
say?!!

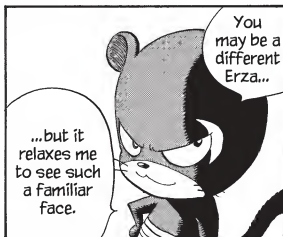
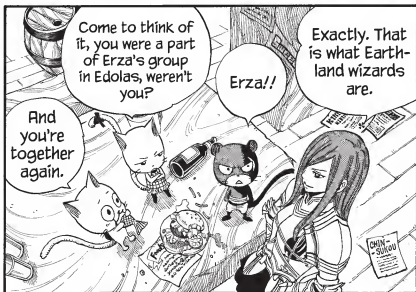
In Edolas, it's
Gray who's
desperately
in love with
Juvia.



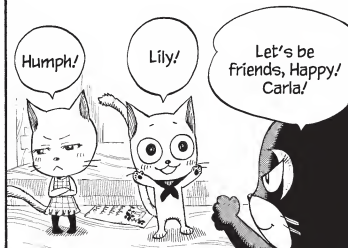
She isn't
as lively as
usual.

I wonder
what
happened to
Juvia?

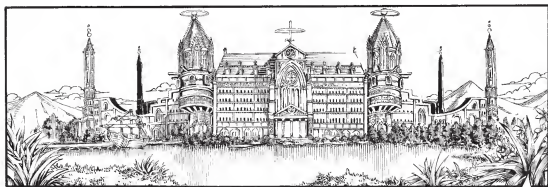


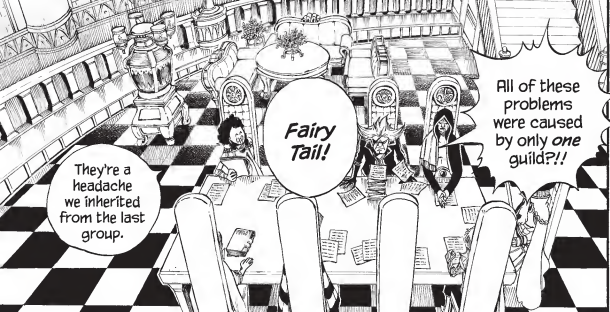








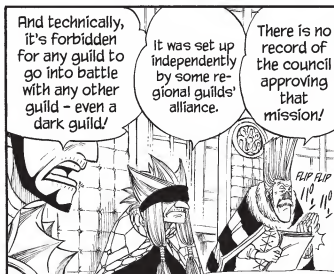




They're a headache we inherited from the last group.

Fairy Tail!

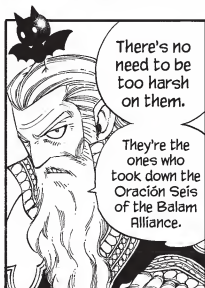
All of these problems were caused by only **one** guild?!!



And technically, it's forbidden for any guild to go into battle with any other guild - even a dark guild!

It was set up independently by some regional guilds' alliance.

There is no record of the council approving that mission!



There's no need to be too harsh on them.

They're the ones who took down the Oración Seis of the Balam Alliance.



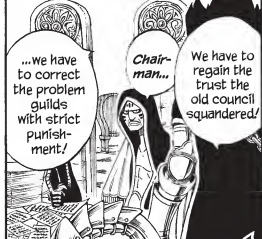
But what I find disturbing is how some of them called Jellal a "friend." They even said so in their reports!

That's a dangerous way to think!



No... I don't see that happening. They may call it an alliance, but it's really nothing more than a non-aggression pact.

And worse, this incident could cause reprisals from the Balam Alliance against official guilds!



...we have to correct the problem guilds with strict punishment!

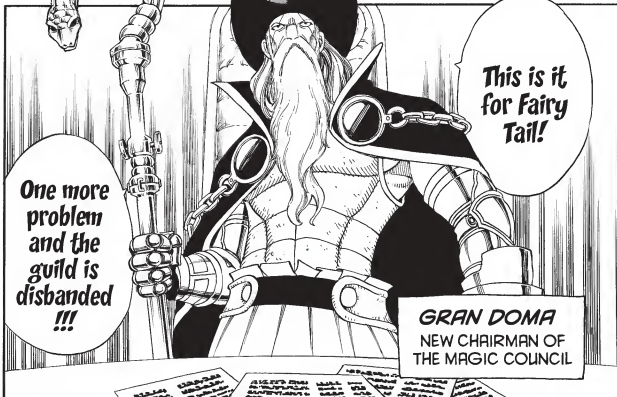
Chairman...

We have to regain the trust the old council squandered!



We'll have to show the people just what's *new* about us!!!!

We are the council reformed anew !!!!



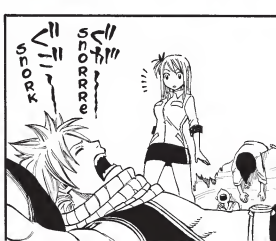
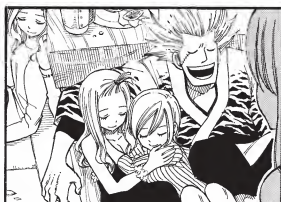
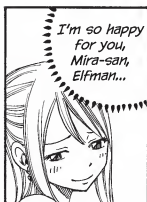
One more problem and the guild is disbanded !!!

This is it for Fairy Tail!

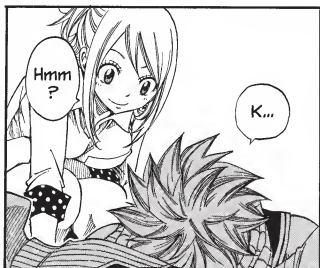
GRAN DOMA
NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE MAGIC COUNCIL

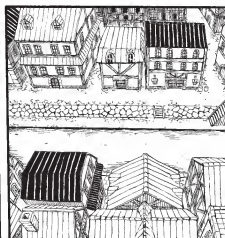
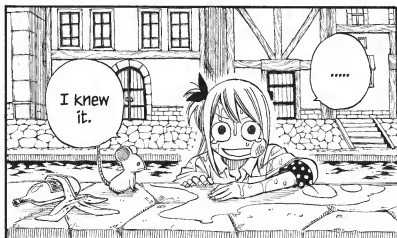


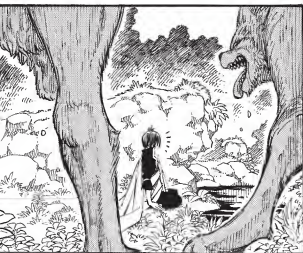




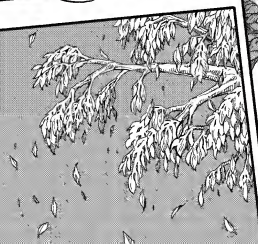
I bet Natsu really wants to see Igneel again too.













*I hope
I can
see you
soon!*

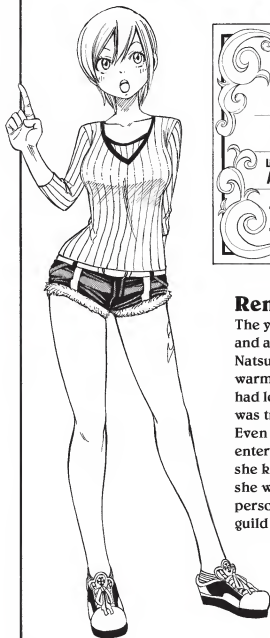
Natsu...



FAIRY TAIL
フェアリーテイル

FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル



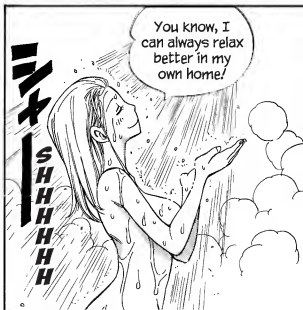
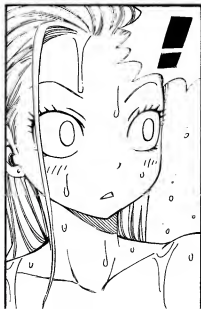
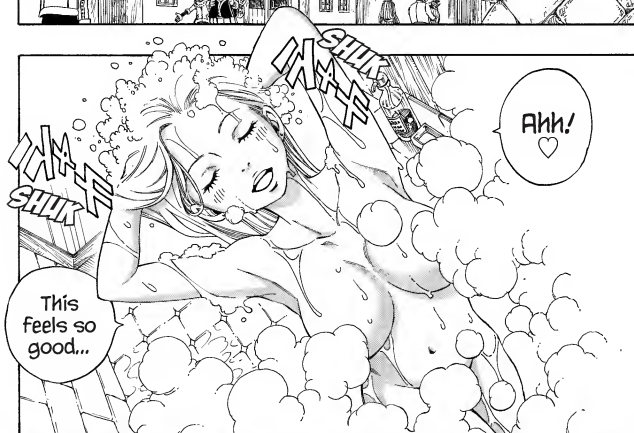
FAIRY TAIL	
Name: Lisanna	Age: 17 yrs.
Magic: Takeover: Animal Soul	
Likes: Animals (especially cats)	Dislikes: Studying

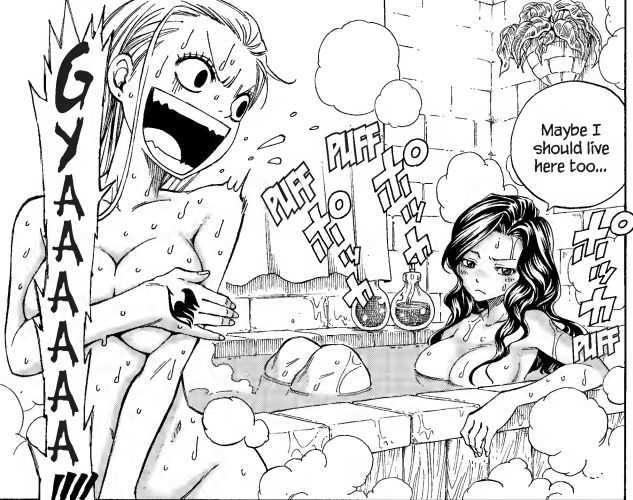


Remarks

The younger sister of Mirajane and Elfman, and a childhood friend of Natsu's. She and Natsu together helped keep Happy's egg warm. Two years ago, everyone thought she had lost her life on a job, but actually she was transported and had to live in Edolas. Even though people like Lucy and Juvia entered the guild while Lisanna was gone, she knew versions of them in Edolas, so she was quick to adapt. Basically an upbeat person, she opened up to everyone in the guild soon after her return.

Chapter 201: Trial





Maybe I should live here too...

Of the Fairy Tail members in my generation, she's the one who has been in the guild the longest.

This... is my house ...

Lucy, you got any booze? Booze!

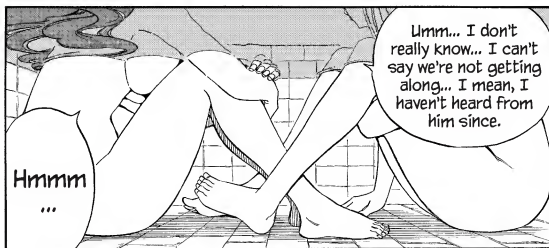
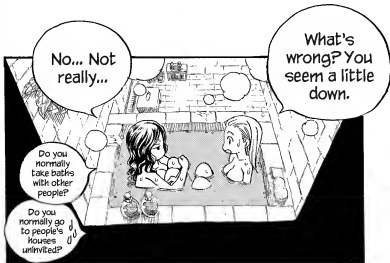
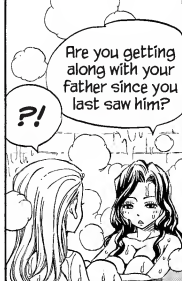
This woman is Cana Alberona.

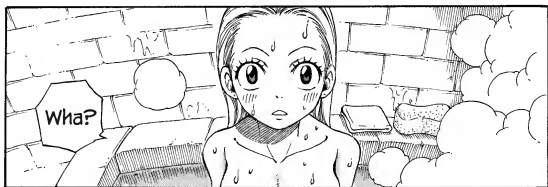
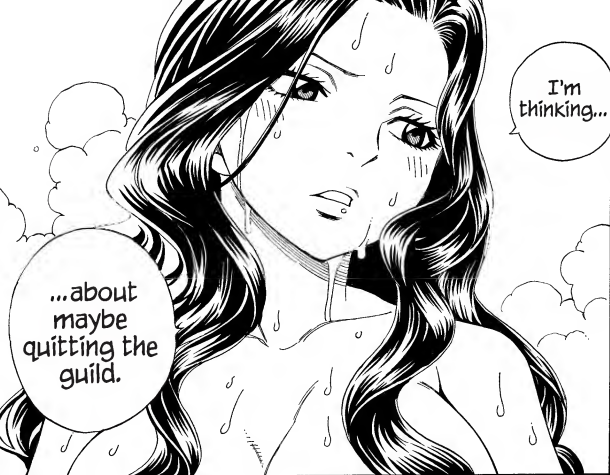
PLOOP

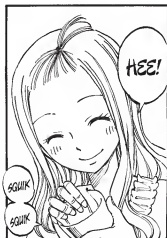


SIGH ...

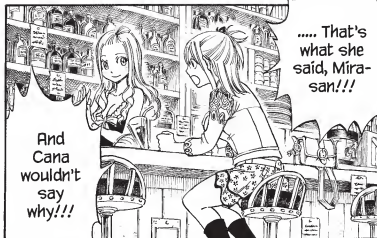








HEE!

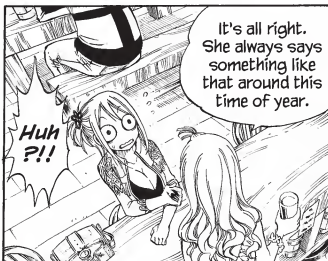


And
Cana
wouldn't
say
why!!!

..... That's
what she
said, Mira-
san!!!

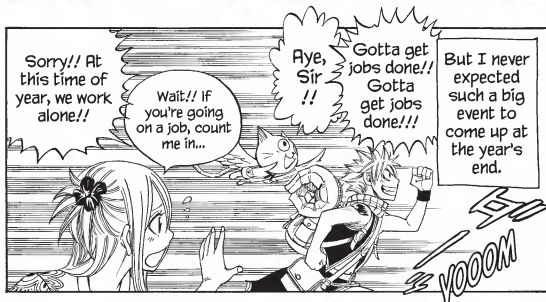


It'll soon be
about half a
year since I
entered Fairy
Tail.



Huh
?!!

It's all right.
She always says
something like
that around this
time of year.



Sorry!! At
this time of
year, we work
alone!!

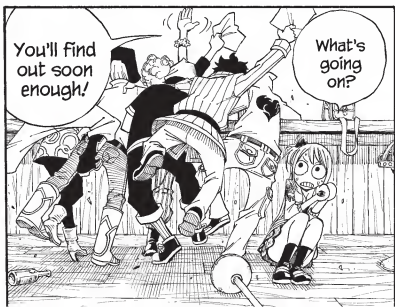
Wait!! If
you're going
on a job, count
me in...

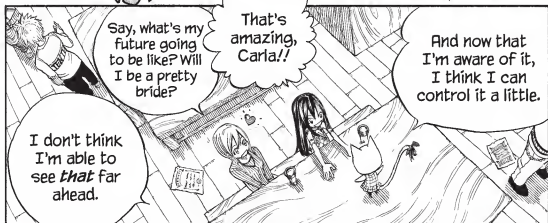
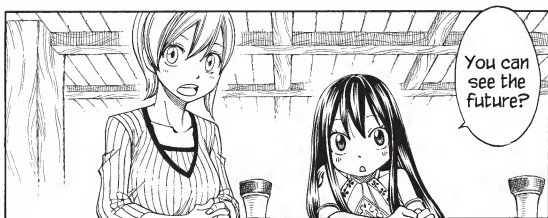
Aye,
Sir
!!

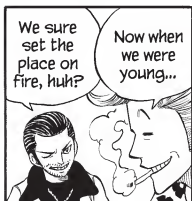
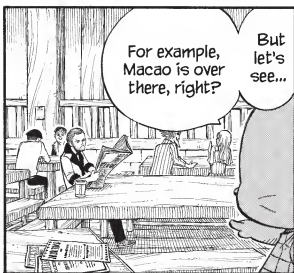
Gotta get
jobs done!!
Gotta
get jobs
done!!!

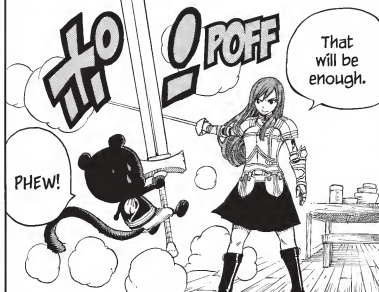
But I never
expected
such a big
event to
come up at
the year's
end.

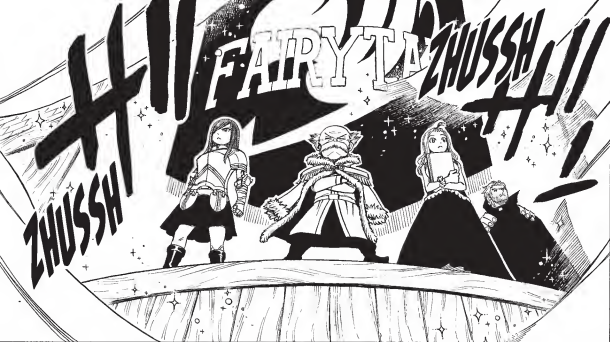
VOOOOM



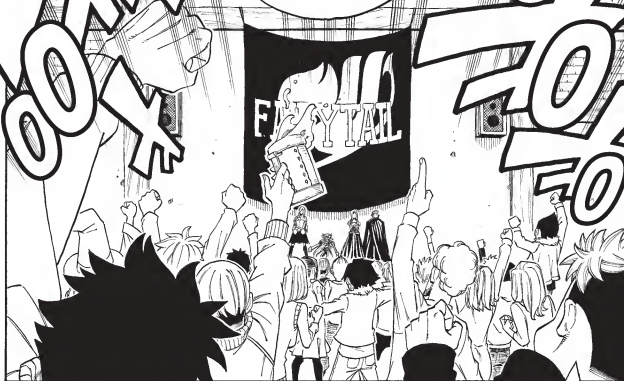








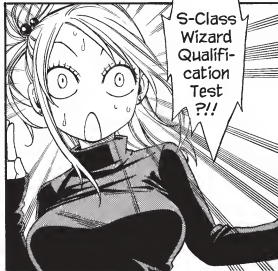
The list of
wizards eligible
to take the
S-Class Wizard
Qualification
Test!!!

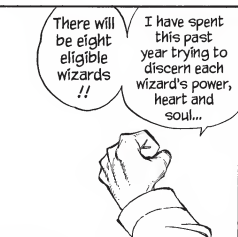
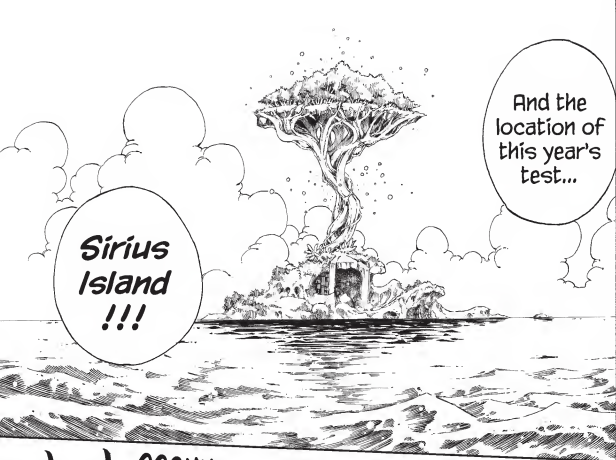


I'm
all
fired
up
!!!!



S-Class
Wizard
Qualifi-
cation
Test
?!!





**Mest
Gryder!**

**Levy
McGarden!**

**Fried
Justine!**

**Cana
Alberona!**

Elfman!

**Juvia
Lockser!**

**Gray
Fullbuster!**

**Natsu
Dragneel!**

**It's
Mest
!!**

**He almost
made it
last year!**

Me...?
I'm
finally
picked?

**Levy!!!
Congrats
!!!**



**Lexus!
I'm ready to
inherit your
position!**

...

S-Class
is the
proper
place for
a
man!!!!

You
go,
big
brother
!!!

**Eh?
You mean
Juvia?**

**The time
has finally
come!**

**All
right
!!!!**

**Good
for you,
Natsu
!!**



Huh?
?

Wow!!
Everybody,
go get
'em!
♥

I get it. Everybody
wanted to make the
eligibility cut, and
that's why they were
doing their best to
stand out.

Ya-
hooo!

Levy
was
chosen!

There's
always
next year,
Alzack.

Aww... I
missed it
again this
year!

Natsu's
name was
finally
called.
So was
Gray's.

*This was
the reason
Cana
wanted to
quit the
guild?*

*Come
to think
of it...*

The test will
take place in
one week! Go
make sure
you are in top
shape!

This time,
only one will
be allowed
to pass the
qualification
test.

I've been
hearing about
how the guild
sees you.

It's
probably
because
not many
people
trust you,
right?

Wh-Why
wasn't my
name in
there...?

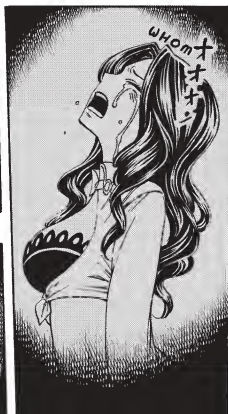
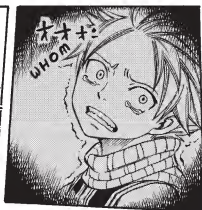
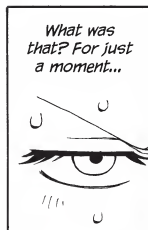
Even
though
Juvia is...

No,
Mest,
right?

Fried
is the
favorite,
right?

Just
one?!!

Natsu and
Gray are
in there,
too!

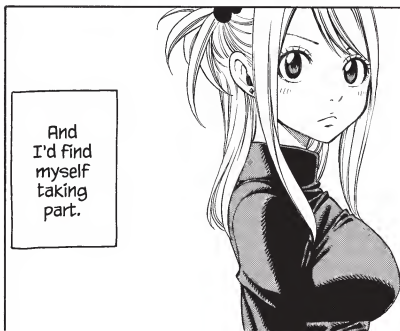




I didn't
know at
the time,
but...



Who...
?!!



And
I'd find
myself
taking
part.

...this
event would
take an
unexpected
turn.

FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル



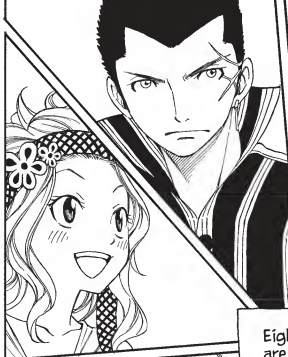
FAIRY TAIL	
Name: Panther Lily	Age: ? yrs.
Magic: Aera & Battle Mode Shift	
Likes: Kiwi Fruit	Dislikes: Thunder



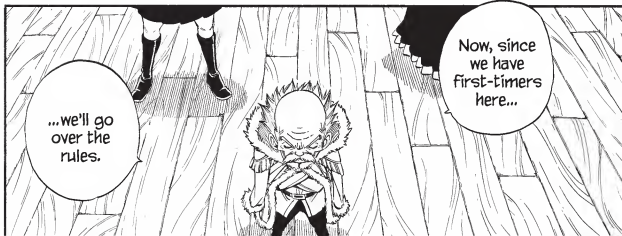
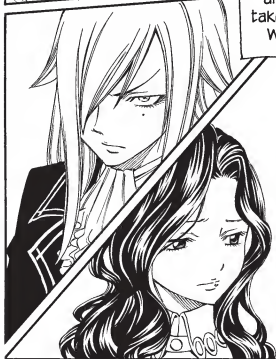
Remarks

Born in Extalia on the other world, Edolas, he belongs to the same race as Happy, the Exceed. He was born larger than most Exceed, and it could be that difference that made him more interested in the humans than any of his fellow Exceed. One day, he found and saved the life of a human child (Mystogan), but when he brought him home to Extalia, that act got Panther Lily banished from his home country. From then on, he lived in the human world raising Mystogan, and with his military skills, he became a division commander in the Royal Forces.

Now in the world of Earth-land, his body has become very small. He can revert to his original body for very short periods of time, but he also seems quite fond of his new body.

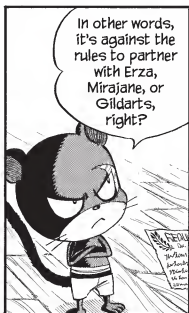
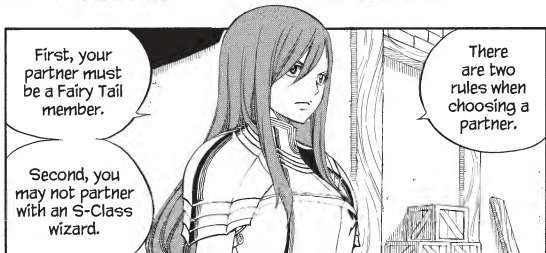
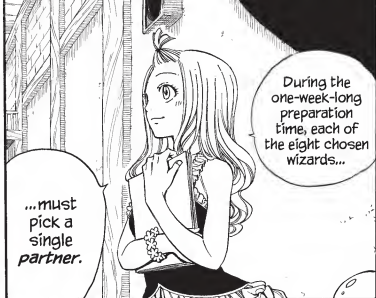
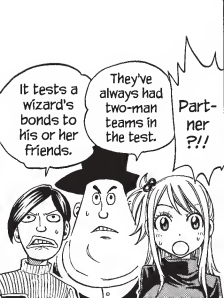


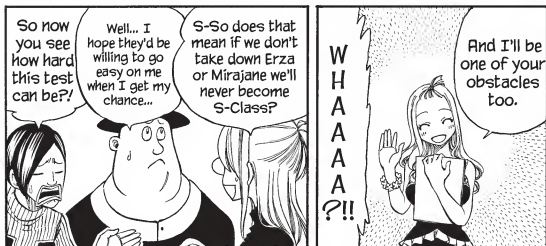
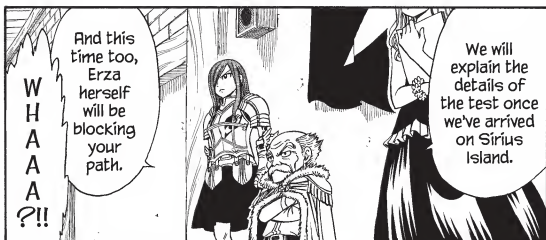
Eight wizards
are eligible to
take the S-Class
Wizard test!



...we'll go
over the
rules.

Now, since
we have
first-timers
here...







That is all!!!!

I want each of the chosen wizards and their partners...

...all gathered together in Hargeon Port in one week!



Ngaah! The road to S-Class will be long and hard for a **man!**

It seems very hard.

The hurdles this year are especially high!

I didn't expect that! So this is the *first* test for everybody at this table?

I'm rooting for you all!

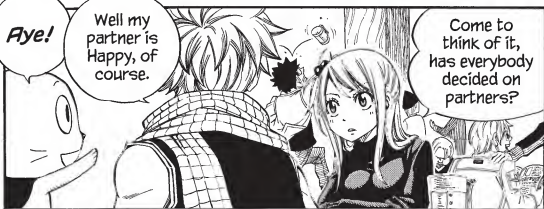
I'm fired up!!! I am gonna make S-Class this year for sure!!!!

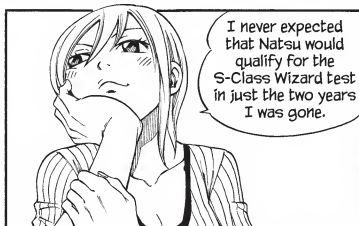
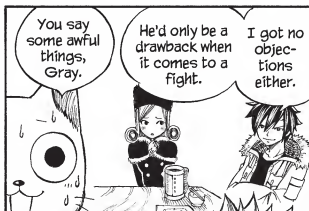


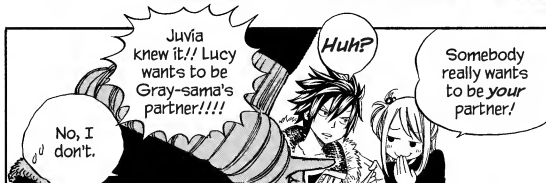
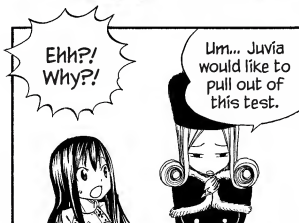
Aye!

Well my partner is Happy, of course.

Come to think of it, has everybody decided on partners?









...
every-
one.

Long time,
no see...

Sorry. I've
already got a
partner.



Sorry, Lucy,
but I have to
call a halt to
our contract
while the test
is going on.

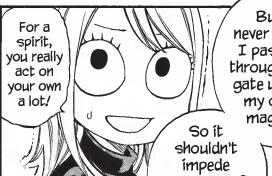
It was a
promise
from last
year.



Loke?!!



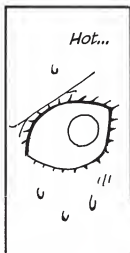
But
do you still
fit the rules as
a member of
the guild?

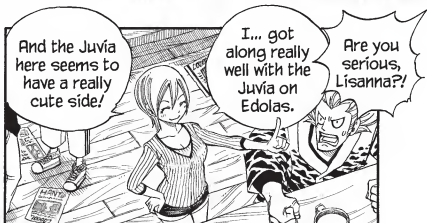
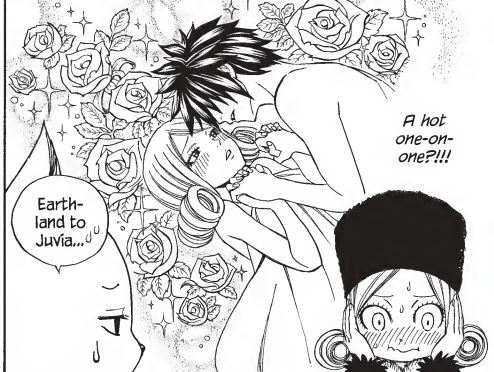


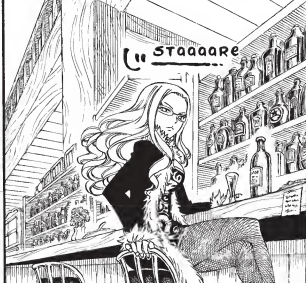
For a
spirit,
you really
act on
your own
a lot!

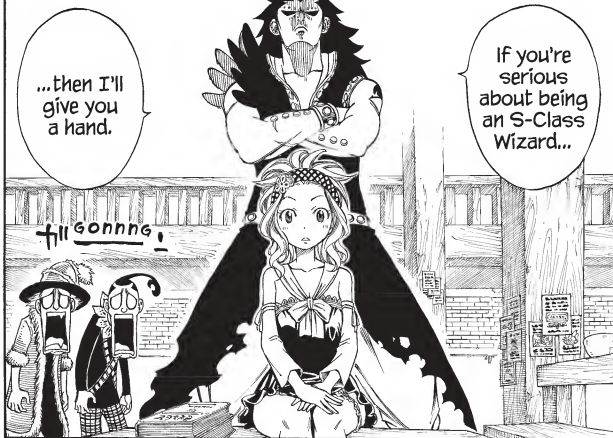
But
never fear.
I passed
through my
gate using
my own
magic.

So it
shouldn't
impede
your use of
magic in the
slightest.









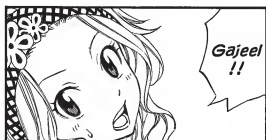
...then I'll
give you
a hand.

If you're
serious
about being
an S-Class
Wizard...

I'll Gonng!



It means
that I get
to bust up
people who
annoy me,
right?



Gajeel
!!



Ahh
!!

Stop...
Let me
down!!

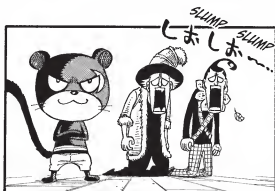
POP
!!

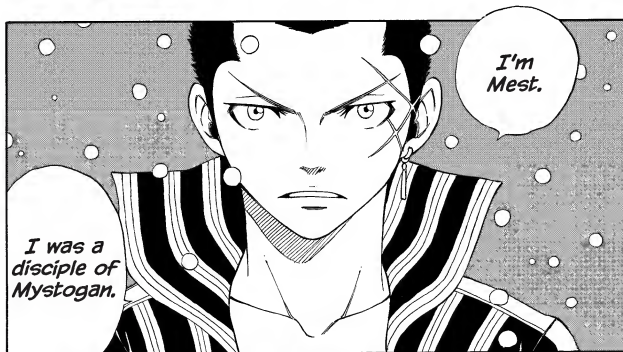
What's
the good of
being that
weak-willed
before you
even try?

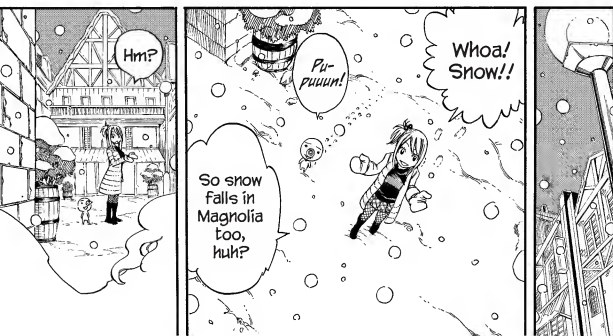
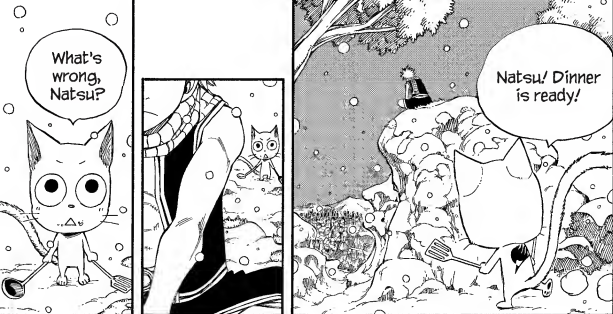


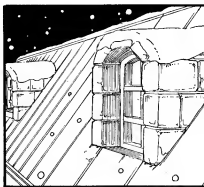
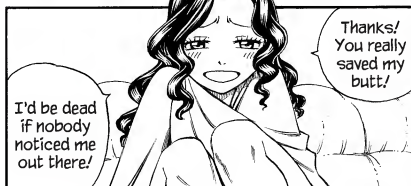
I'm...
small, and
I'm not
much use
to any-
body...

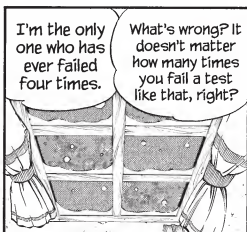
...so
I think
I'm going
to lose
pretty
quickly.

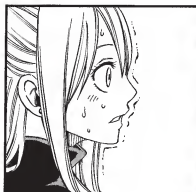
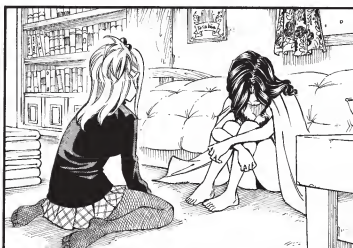
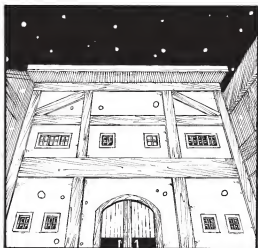
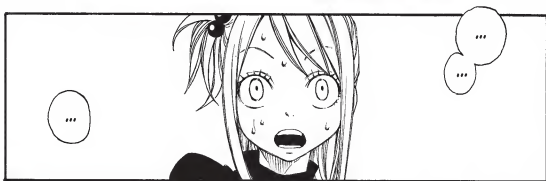


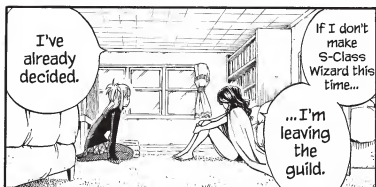
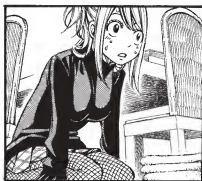










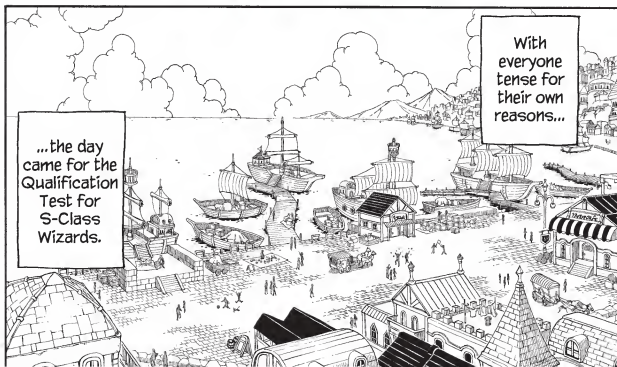
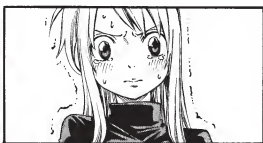




**I'll see
that you
become
an S-Class
Wizard,
Cana!!!!**



Lucy...



...the day
came for the
Qualification
Test for
S-Class
Wizards.

With
everyone
tense for
their own
reasons...

RAINBOW HILL

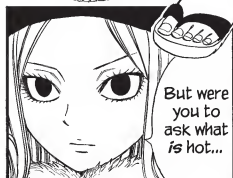
Chapter 203, Eight Paths

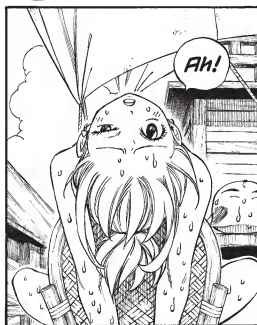
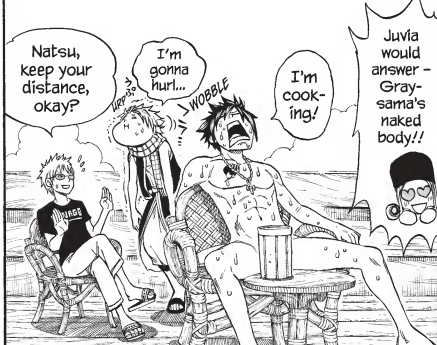


It was
just winter!
What's all this
about...

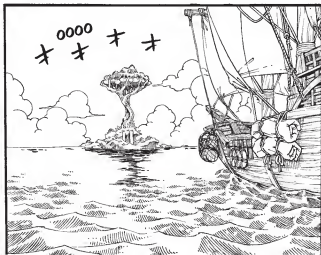
SHEEN

It's hot!!!





*Loincloth: "Man"



There's
an island
above the
island?!!

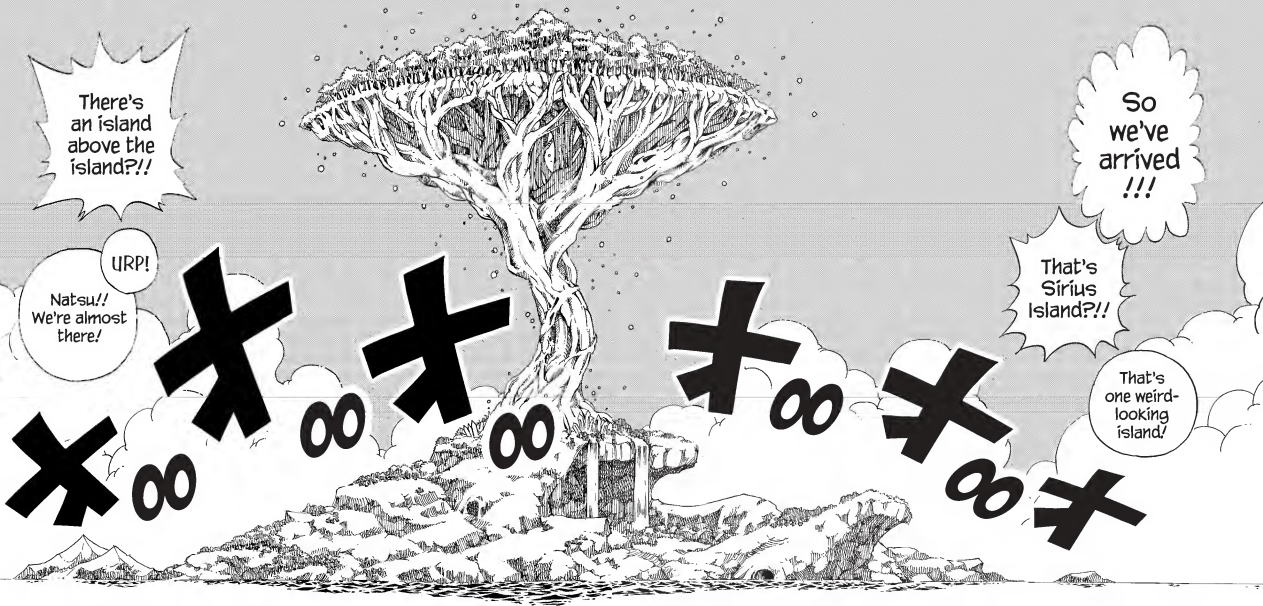
URP!

Natsu!!
We're almost
there!

So
we've
arrived
!!!

That's
Sirius
Island?!!

That's
one weird-
looking
island!



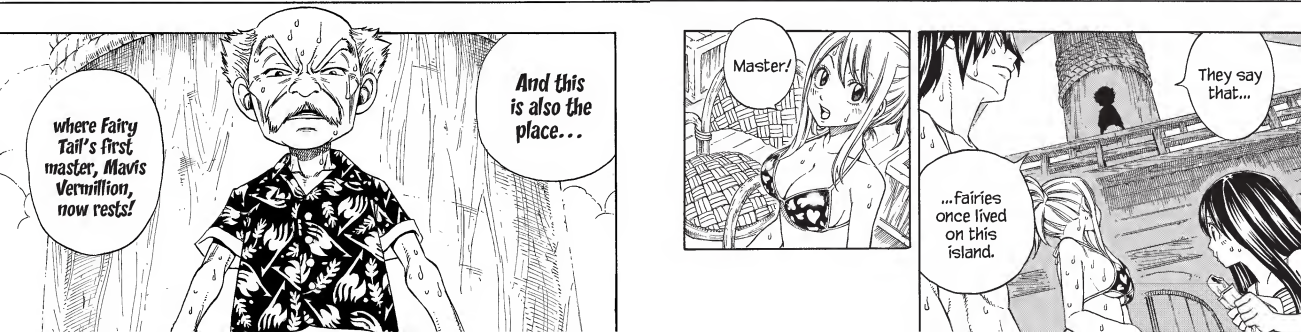
where Fairy
Tail's first
master, Mavis
Vermillion,
now rests!

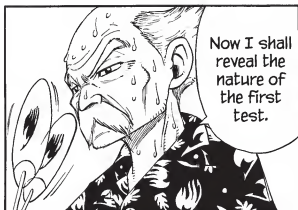
And this
is also the
place...

Master!

They say
that...

...fairies
once lived
on this
island.





Now I shall reveal the nature of the first test.



Well, it's hot!

What's with those clothes?!

A nude guy has no right to complain!



You see where that stream of smoke is rising from the shore?

Your first order of business is to make your way there.



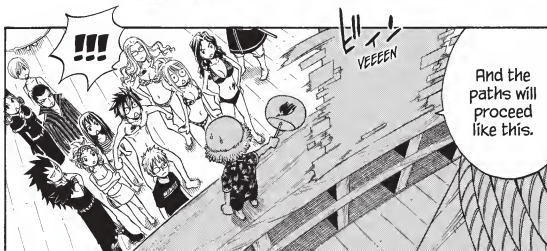
Pretty much every year, there are several different levels.

The first test?!



You will only be allowed one path per pair.

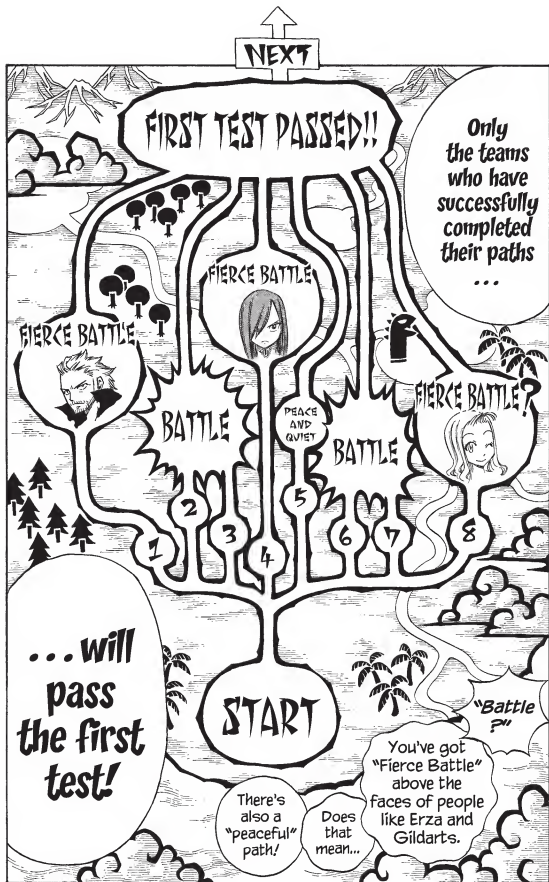
Once you get there, there will be *eight paths*.



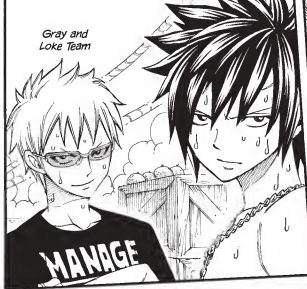
!!!

VEEEN

And the paths will proceed like this.



Gray and
Loke Team

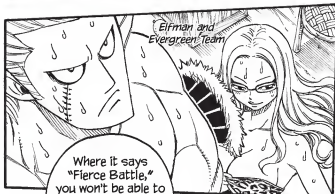


Natsu and
Happy Team



Of the eight paths, the "Battle" routes are where two teams will bump into each other. Only one team can pass through to the end.

Elfman and
Evergreen Team

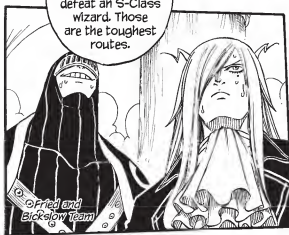


Where it says "Fierce Battle," you won't be able to advance unless you defeat an S-Class wizard. Those are the toughest routes.

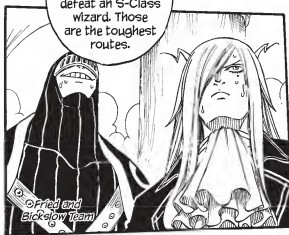
Juvia and
Lisanna Team



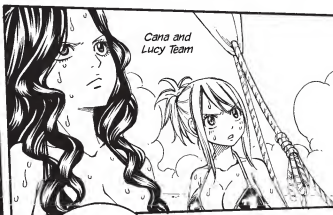
Cana and
Lucy Team



Fried and
Bickslow Team



Cana and
Lucy Team

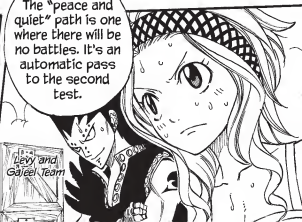


The "peace and quiet" path is one where there will be no battles. It's an automatic pass to the second test.

Mel and
Wendy Team



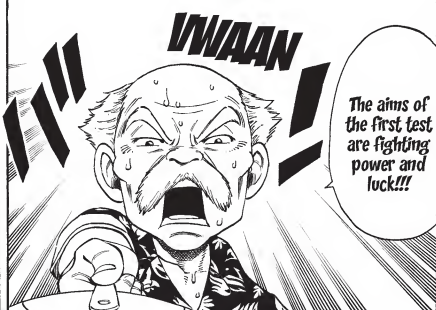
Levy and
Gajeel Team



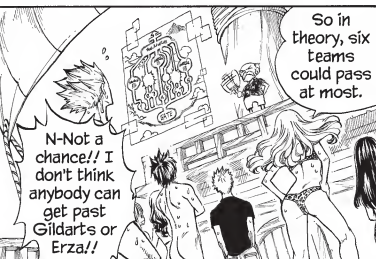


GONING

Did he just say... Luck?



The aims of the first test are fighting power and luck!!!



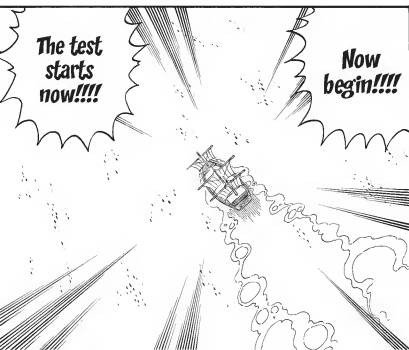
So in theory, six teams could pass at most.

N-Not a chance!! I don't think anybody can get past Gildarts or Erza!!



The chances of hitting the "peace and quiet" path are 8-to-1.

I think we can do the luck part!



The test starts now!!!!

Now begin!!!!



Sounds like fun!

And at worst, only three teams may pass...



WHOOSH
!!!

So
that's
the deal,
Happy
!!!



✕ + ✕
GRIN



Aren't...
we way
out at
sea?

Huh?



SHUSHUUSH

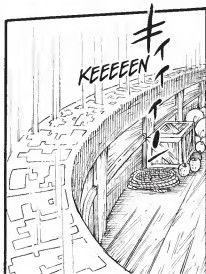


Hey,
that's
no fair!

Natsu,
you
jerk!

Aye,
Sir!

We're
gonna be
the first to
choose a
path!!!!



KEEEEEEN



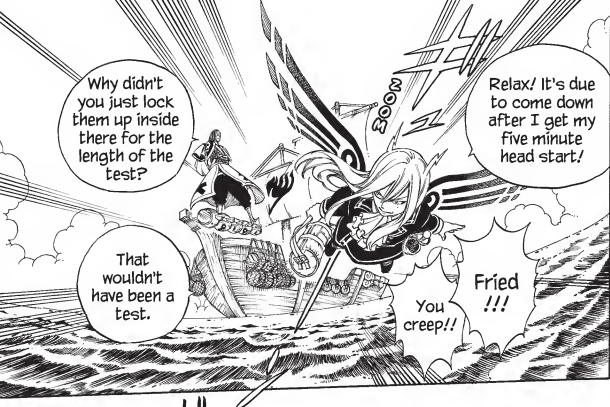
Jutsu-
shiki?

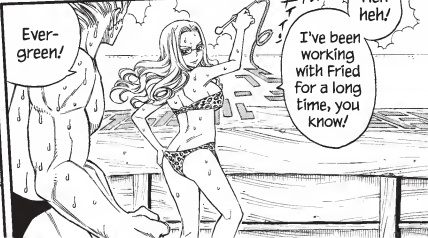
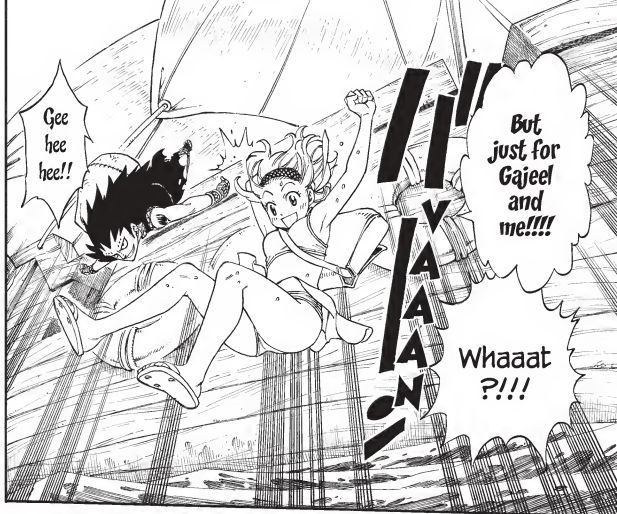


GONING!

NGAH!

WHA-

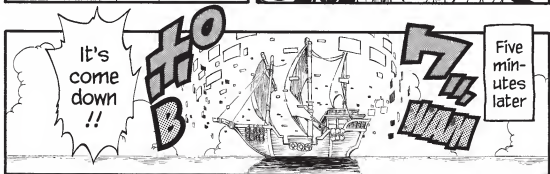






Now,
let's go,
Elfman
!!!!

Ohhhh!
Maaaan!





Right!!

Let's go, Lucy!!!!

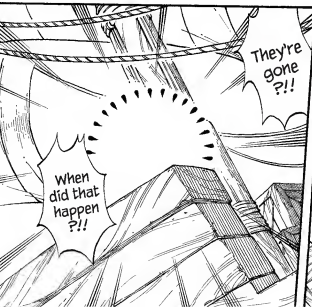
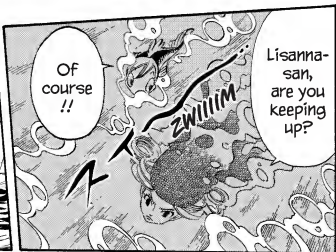
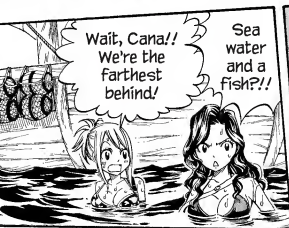
Loke, here we go!!

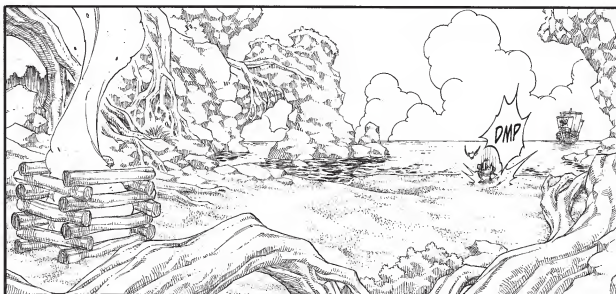
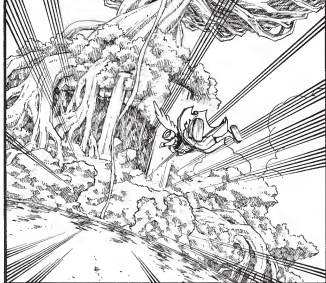
At least wear underwear!

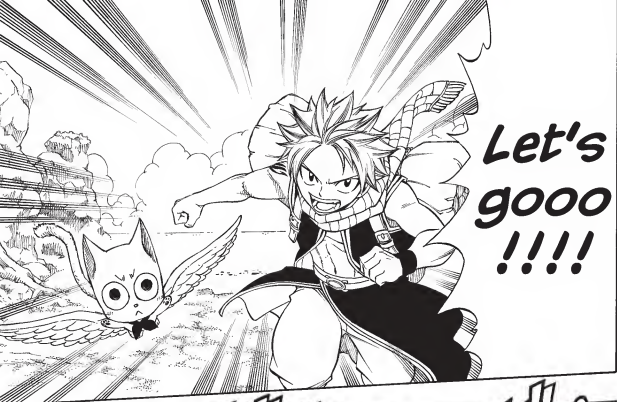
Ice make...

Aye, Sir!!

Happy!!!







*Let's
gooo
!!!!*



It means
four routes
are already
blocked
off!!!

....That
means...



Why would you *choose* Erza's route?!

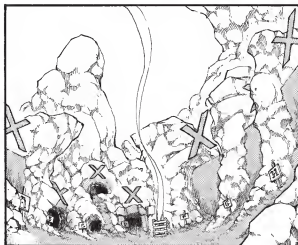
That's an E!! That's gotta mean that Erza's on the route!!

Why else?! I always wanted to win against her!!!



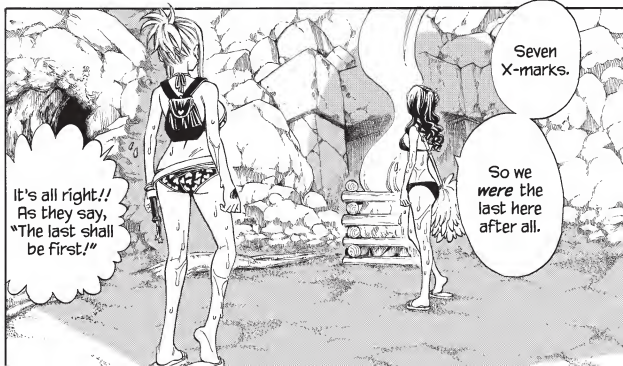
Hmm...

Which'll we take, Natsu?



Whoa!! He's already decided that she's on this path.

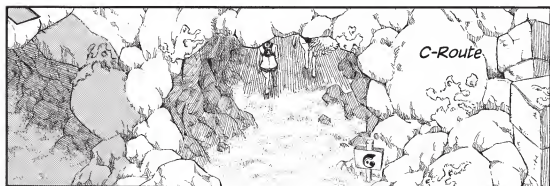
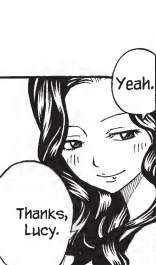
Just you wait, Erza!!!

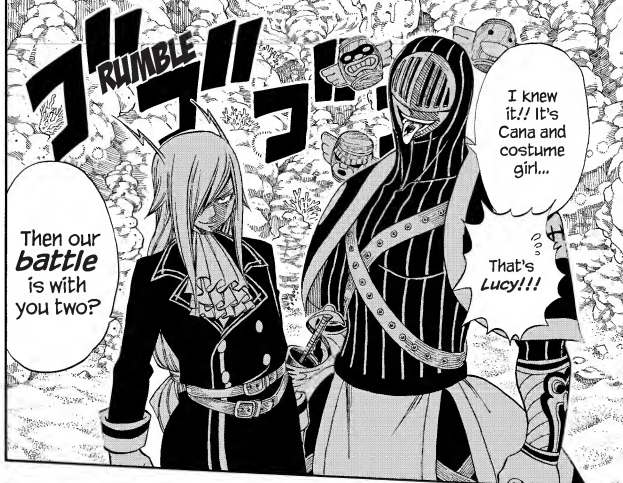


It's all right!! As they say, "The last shall be first!"

Seven X-marks.

So we *were* the last here after all.

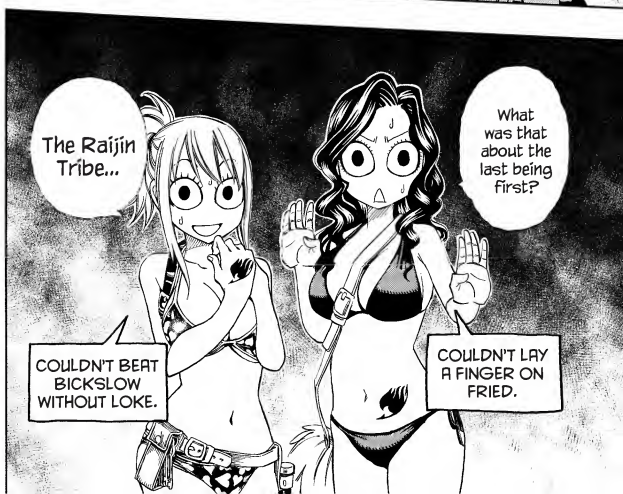




Then our
battle
is with
you two?

I knew
it!! It's
Cana and
costume
girl...

That's
Lucy!!!



The Raijin
Tribe...

COULDN'T BEAT
BICKSLOW
WITHOUT LOKE.

What
was that
about the
last being
first?

COULDN'T LAY
A FINGER ON
FRIED.

FAIRYTAIL

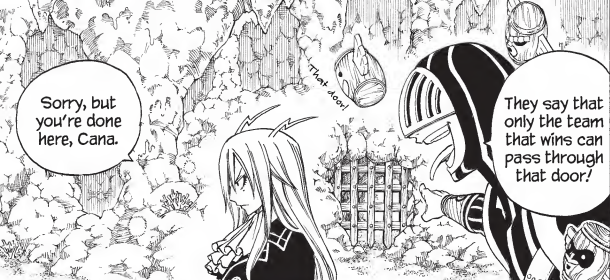
フェアリーテイル

Chapter 204: Who Is the Lucky One

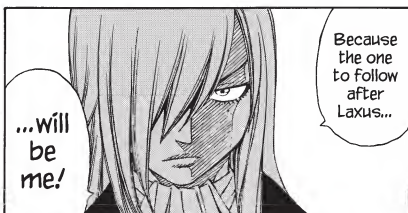


S-Class Wizard Test, First Trial...





...will
be
me!



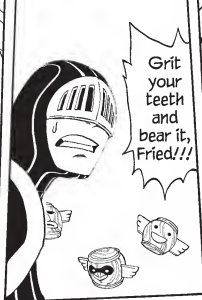
Because
the one
to follow
after
Lexus...







UWAH!!

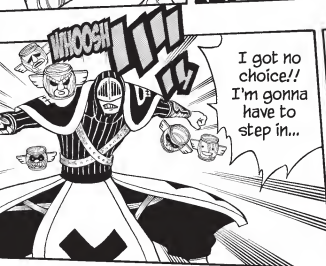


Grit
your
teeth
and
bear it,
Fried!!!

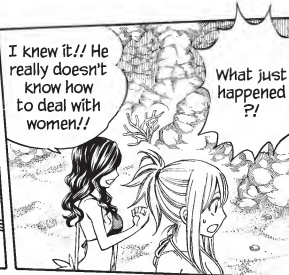


Girls
came
out
of
her
cards
!!!

How
lewd
can
a
person
get?!



I got no
choice!!
I'm gonna
have to
step in...



I knew it!! He
really doesn't
know how
to deal with
women!!

What just
happened
?!



Open!!
Gate of
the Virgin
Palace!!!



Lucy
!!

Right
!!!

Full
Service
Version
!!!

VIRGO
!!!!

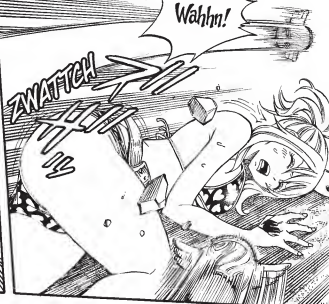
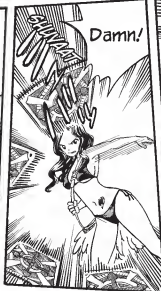
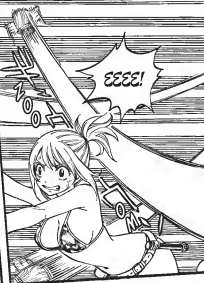
OOM

BOO

That
won't
work on
me!!

Y-You
mean
one
more
?!!

Go,
Babies!!

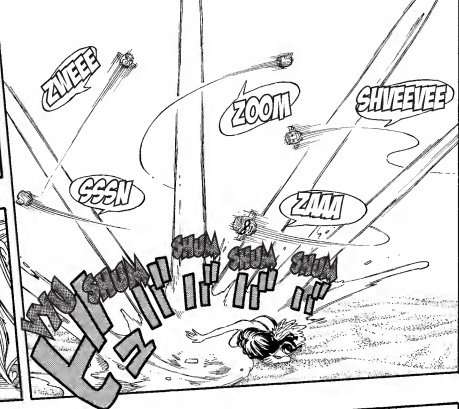




They're
still avoid-
ing my attacks
!!



Water
!!



It'll
be all
right
!!

It's
dangerous to
touch it...



This
water is an attack
type!!

Lucy,
you can't!!



Open
!!!

Gate
of the
Water
Bearer
Palace
!!!



SHUUU

Nng
!!

AQUARIUS
!!!!

ZA

BWOOSH

Take
this
!!!!

An-
other
bathing
suit
?!!

Woah
!!!!



What
?!

Canan!!
Grab on to
something
!!!



HYAAH
!!!!

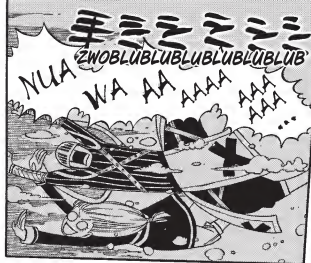
KYAAAAA!!!

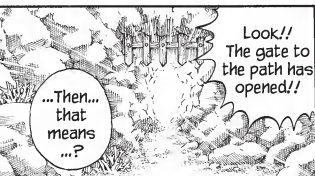
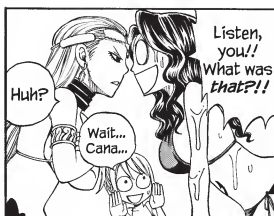
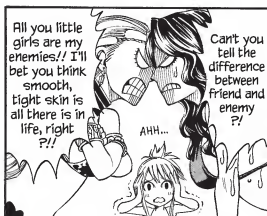
ZAAWAAAAA

IIIT

WOOOOH!!!!

IIIOOOG







We
passed
the first
test
!!!!

We
did it
!!!!



Let's go,
Lucy!!

Right!!



Yeah.

You're sure
this is what
you wanted,
Fried?



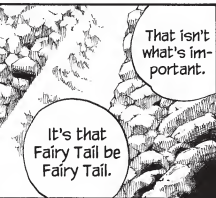
CLUMP
TOO!!



But I
owe a
debt to
those
two.

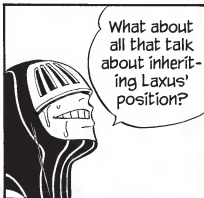
I decided
from the
start to do
this if it
came to a
battle with
them.

If it
had been
any other
team, I'd
have gone
full out.



That isn't
what's im-
portant.

It's that
Fairy Tail be
Fairy Tail.



What about
all that talk
about inher-
iting Laxus'
position?



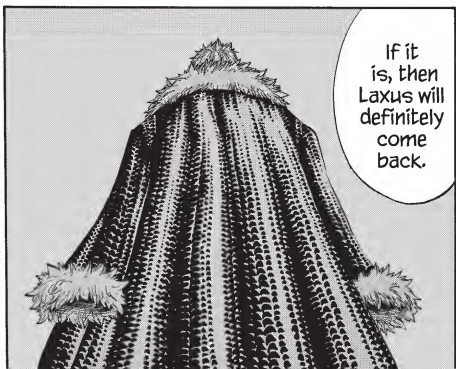
Probably.

Don't you
think you
overdid that
stupid "weak
with women"
concept?

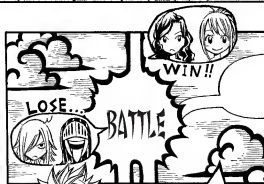


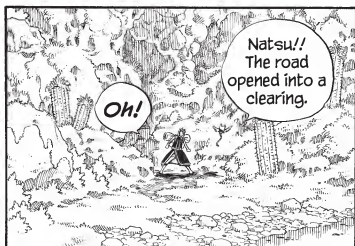
... But the
last thing I
expected...

...was to go
up against
Lucy and
Cana...



If it
is, then
Laxus will
definitely
come
back.









You know
that I hate
pullin' my
punches.



It's all
over!



Yo,
Natsu!
Bad luck,
huh?

Gildarts
!!!!



**I'M
ALL
FIRED
UP
!!!!**

GWOOOO

TO BE CONTINUED

Afterword

あとがき



And it's the start of, "Let the S-Class Test Begin!!" Just when I couldn't come up with a good, exciting plot, my editor made a suggestion, and it turned into this "hot" new story! I had thought of doing an S-Class test story for a while, but I had always thought of it as a contest between Natsu and Gray. But since we're here, I thought it would be a lot more fun if we got the guild into the series. So it's turned into a story that includes a lot of the guild members. But at the same time, with the huge cast, it makes both drawing and story plotting a lot more difficult. Figuring out who gets put up against who and what's going to happen in the end... It isn't the hardest thing I've ever done, but it took me a long time to work the whole thing through. Now, you can see the chaos that is my thought process, on the inside covers of the book. I mean, everything is all messed up! (By the way, my initial plan for this story and the story you will read are going to be very different.) So in the next volume, you'll find out who that mysterious man who appeared in Chapter 200 was, but I'll bet it's impossible to predict. I know that since I haven't even placed a single hint of it in the book because I want it to be a complete surprise to the readers.

EMERGENCY REQUEST!



The lake behind the guild...

Mira: Sigh...

Lucy: What's wrong? What's with the sighs all of a sudden?

Mira: There were suddenly a lot of questions without anybody asking permission...

Lucy: But that means this corner is getting popular! That's a good thing, right?

Mira: It also means that there is a lot to complain about with this book.

Lucy: Now, now. Let's not overthink it. Let's pick up our game and get to the first question.

In the side story in Volume 19, Lucy said she had been in the guild for a year, but in the continuing story, it's only half a year. What is that about?



Lucy: That question...comes up a lot.

Lucy: I guess it can be a little hard to follow.

Mira: The truth is the side stories take place a little while ahead of the main story.

Lucy: But you know... About now the author will be having a few problems.

Mira: True. It seems that he thought the guild of a year from now would be pretty much the same as the guild is now.

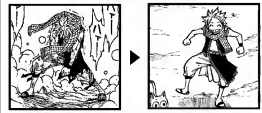
Lucy: Yeah, the whole thing is beginning to look a little suspicious...

Lucy: So I'll clear it all up right now. From now on, if there are any discrepancies between the side stories and the continuing story line, those side stories all become **LUCY'S DREAM**, and we'll leave it at that.

Lucy: You're going to actually use the old, "It was all a dream" cliché?!!

Mira: Next question.

Just how many sets of the same clothes does Natsu have?



Continued on the right-hand page

Continued from the left-hand page

Lucy: They're always getting ripped to shreds, and later they're right back to normal, huh?

Mira: Those clothes are a special type that doesn't burn.



: Wha?! Is that right?!!

Mira: Sure! They were made special for him by a Magnolia tailor.

Lucy: He could get a different design now and again.



: Face it. It's a pain to come up with things like that. For the author...



: You shouldn't be saying things like that...

How was Mystogan able to close the anima?



Mira: Before we try to answer that, first we have to reveal a bit of Mystogan's back story.

Lucy: His real name is Jellal. He's the Jellal from Edolas.

Mira: A long time ago, when Laxus said, "Another..." that's what he was talking about. "Another Jellal," was what he was about to say.

Lucy: How Laxus knew about it is a mystery though.

Mira: And six years ago, he came to Earth-land to close the anima.

Lucy: Anima are those holes in the sky, remember?

Mira: Right! Mystogan used those rods of his to close the holes in the sky. He'd go, "Unf!" and do it.



: Really...? But Mystogan was originally from Edolas, so he doesn't have any magic inside him...



: All of his magic came from those rods he always carried around with him.

Lucy: I wonder if everybody from there is doing okay...

Mira: They're fine! I'm sure they're all doing just great! After all, Mystogan is a member of the Fairy Tail guild!



: That's true, huh?



: Mira!

Mira: Lisanna!!

Lisanna: Lucy's here too!! We have to go!! The party's about to start!!

Lucy: Party?

Lisanna: The party celebrating my coming back to life!! Yaay!

Mira: You're right. Shall we go?



: (Great! It looks like Mira's happy and not sighing anymore.)

Send to: Hiro Mashima, Kodansha Comics

451 Park Ave. South, 7th Floor New York, NY 10016

FAIRY TAIL

GUILD d'ART

The Fairy Tail Guild d'Art is looking for illustrations! Please send in your art on a post card or at post-card size, and do it in black pen, okay? Those chosen to be published will get a signed mini poster! ♪ Make sure you write your real name and address on the back of your illustration!

Gili, Prefecture, Rins Kato



▲ There are a lot of Wendy postcards!! Thanks!!

Shizuoka Prefecture, Baboon



▲ A sexy Erza. She's putting in her work helping to oversee the sea!

Miyagi Prefecture, Tomoko



▲ This one's kind of cool! This Natsu!

Shizuoka Prefecture, Shion-Grade Clover



▲ Lisanna's popularity is on the rise too! Celebrate! She's come back to life!

Saitama Prefecture, Love FT



▲ Look at all those characters! Thanks for all the work!

Nagasaki Prefecture, Shōji Mame



▲ It's Natsu and Lisanna. Friends since childhood.

Kagawa Prefecture, Okawa



▲ What's this?! Someone who has been reading me ever since my debut work? Well, that's good!

Nagano Prefecture, Yūki Its



▲ Wroah!! Everybody's suddenly grown fangs!



▲ The best combination!! These guys are tough!

Saitama Prefecture, O-CK



▲ So what's going to happen between these two?

Saitama Prefecture, Rins Maryama



▲ A rather sad Carla. It's a good thing that she made it back safely!

Hiroshima Prefecture, Rinsu



▲ Now this is amazing! I'm sure it was a hard thing to draw!! Good job!!

Guinea Prefecture, Mai Shimizu



▲ For some reason Cocco is immensely popular. Will she show up again sometime?

Oita Prefecture, Black-and-White Bunny



▲ Oh, hey!! That's good! This person draws Carla better than I do!

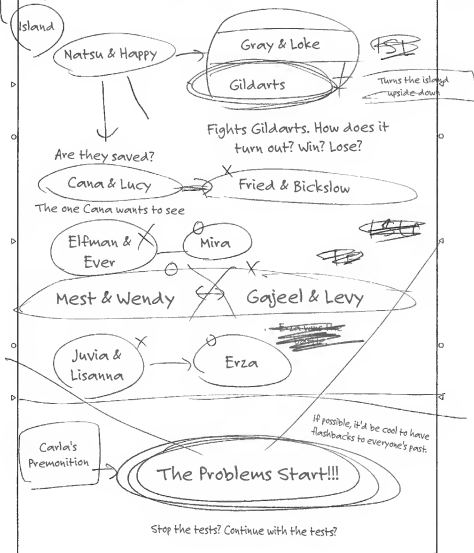


By sending in letters or postcards you give us permission to give your name, address, postal code and any other information you include to the author as is. Please keep that in mind.

FAIRYTAIL

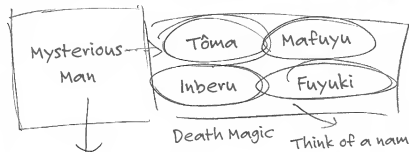
24

Fairy Tail S-Class Wizard Test Contents



()

~~Mest's real identity, Grimoire Makarov's, guild man, Council member~~



He appears before Natsu.

Canal's person.

Reason for going off alone?

Lucy → Searches for Cana

Gray → Goes on to Second Test.
(His promise with Loke)



The Highest Level Battle!!!!

~~Makarov~~

The Island's Secret

A secret that Fairy Tail must not reveal about Fairy Tail's past.

()

FROM HIRO NASHIMA



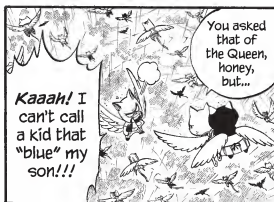
I've got too much to do lately.
But it's all things I can't tell you
about yet!
I had to think about *that*.
I had to get to work drawing *that*.
I had to check *that* thoroughly.
I had to...
I had to...
You get the picture.
I just have too much to do that isn't
connected with putting out my
weekly installments in *Magazine*!
My head is in chaos!
I want you all to know about it now!

Translation Notes:

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

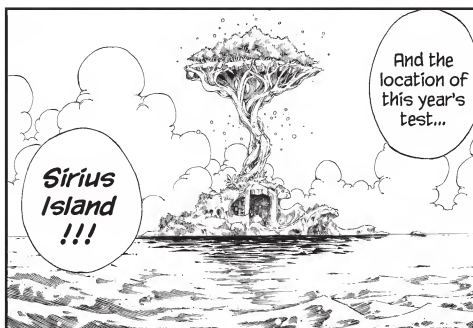
Page 37, Blue

In Japanese, the word for 'blue,' *ao*, covers a range of colors from pale green to deep blue. So when someone is 'green,' (as in inexperienced), they use the term, *ao*, instead of 'green.' Unfortunately the pun doesn't work well in English considering Happy's deep blue coloring, so I left the sentence as a literal translation.



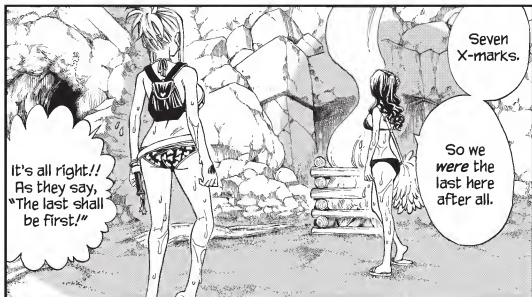
Page 101, Sirius Island

The Japanese name for this island is Tenrô-jima ('Heaven Wolf Island,') but Tenrô is also the name for the Dog Star of the heavens, Sirius.



Page 144, The last shall be first

In the original, this was a common Japanese phrase, "*Nokorimono ni wa fuku ga aru*," meaning that those who are left behind have special providence.



Page 145, Spirit-luminescent

The original Japanese was, *riekōmushi*, which, using different kanji, is the same Japanese word for bioluminescence. In bioluminescence, the first kanji is *rei* and means, "cold" (referring to a light source other than fire or incandescence). In the Fairy Tail world, the first kanji is also pronounced *rei*, but it means "ghost" or "spirit."



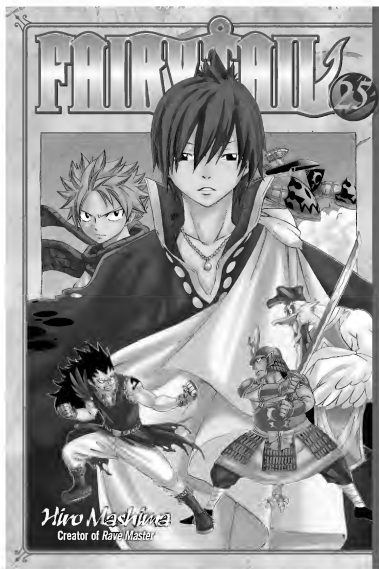
Page 153, "Vi" is for vigilant cleaning

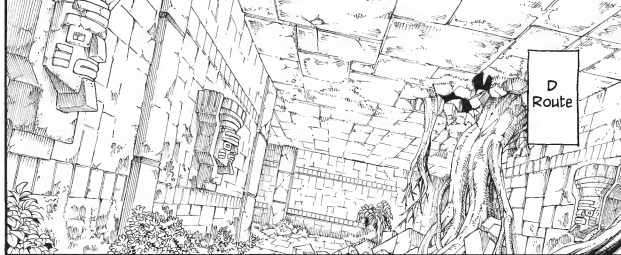
The Japanese version was pretty much the same, only it used the Japanese syllabery rather than the alphabet. So Virgo, which is spelled *Barugo* in Japanese, used the same "Vi is for" pattern, but instead did it for "ba," "ru," and "go."



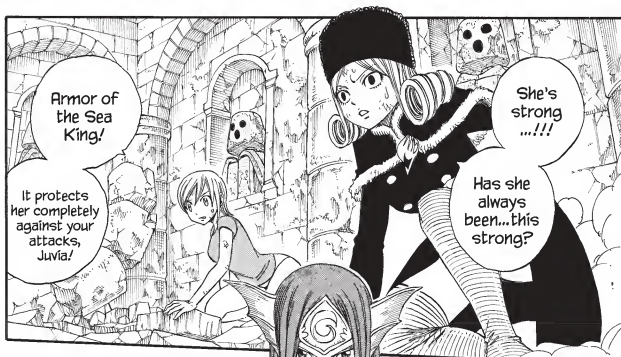
Preview of *Fairy Tail*, volume 25

We're pleased to present a preview from *Fairy Tail* Vol. 25, due out in April 2013 from Kodansha Comics. Check out our Web site (www.kodanshacomics.com) for more details!





D
Route

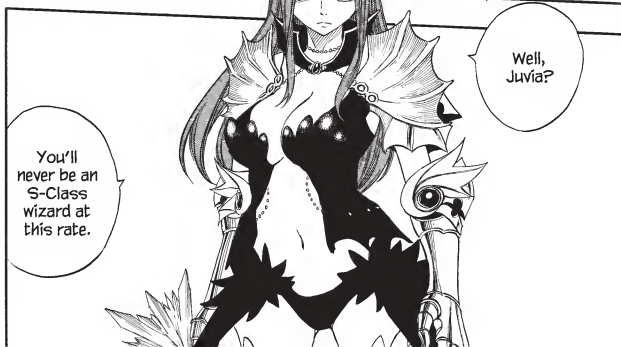


Armor of
the Sea
King!

It protects
her completely
against your
attacks,
Juvia!

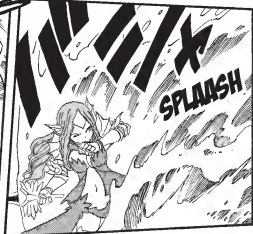
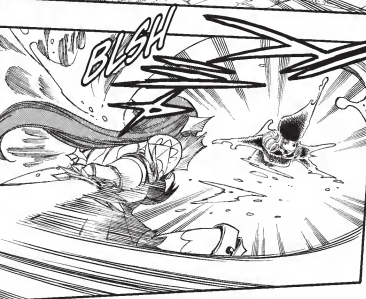
She's
strong
...!!!

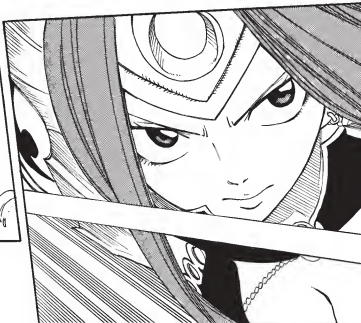
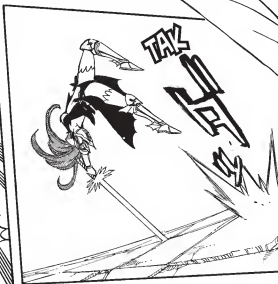
Has she
always
been... this
strong?

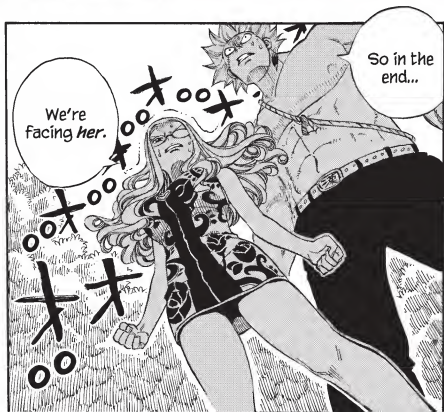
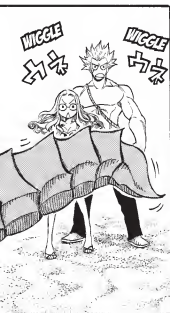
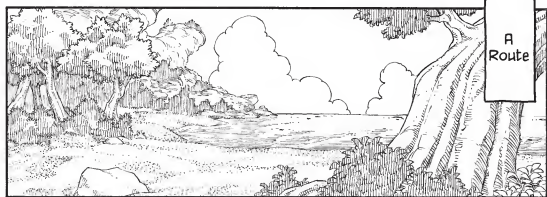


Well,
Juvia?

You'll
never be an
S-Class
wizard at
this rate.









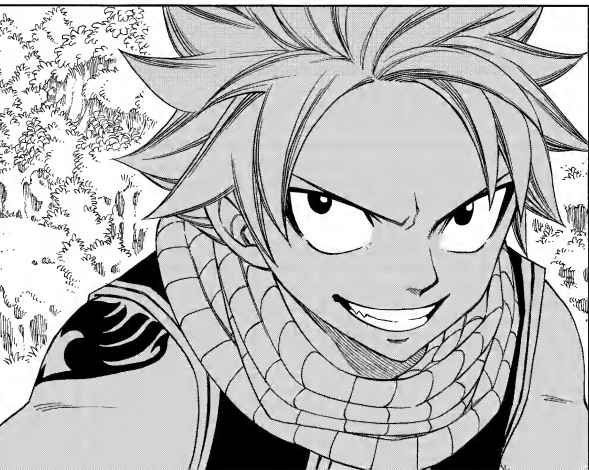
You may be my brother, but I won't pull my punches...

Elfman!

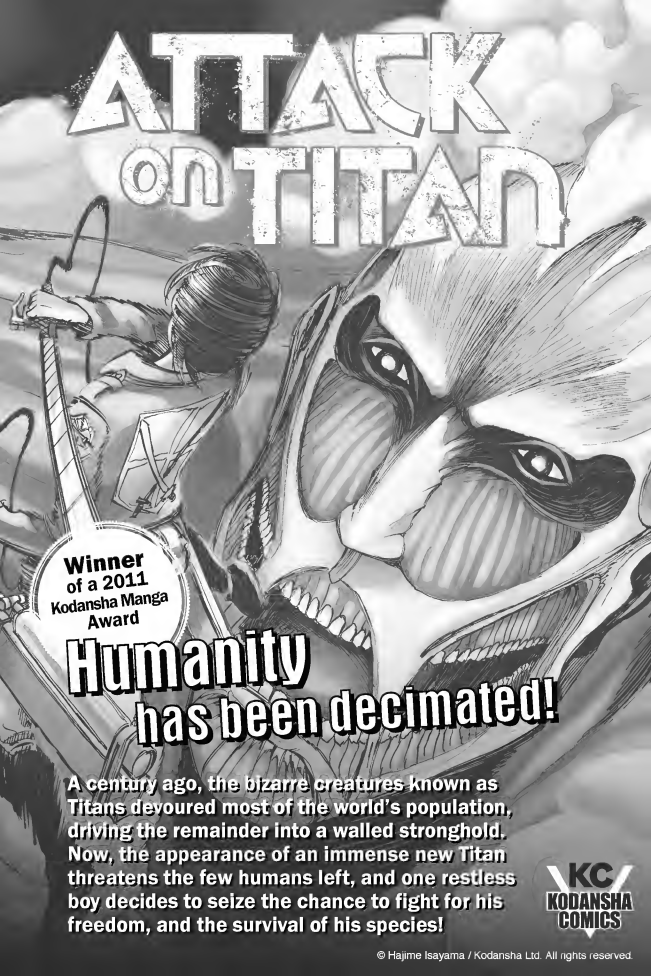
So this is a full-fledged...

EEEEEE!

WAAA!



ATTACK on TITAN

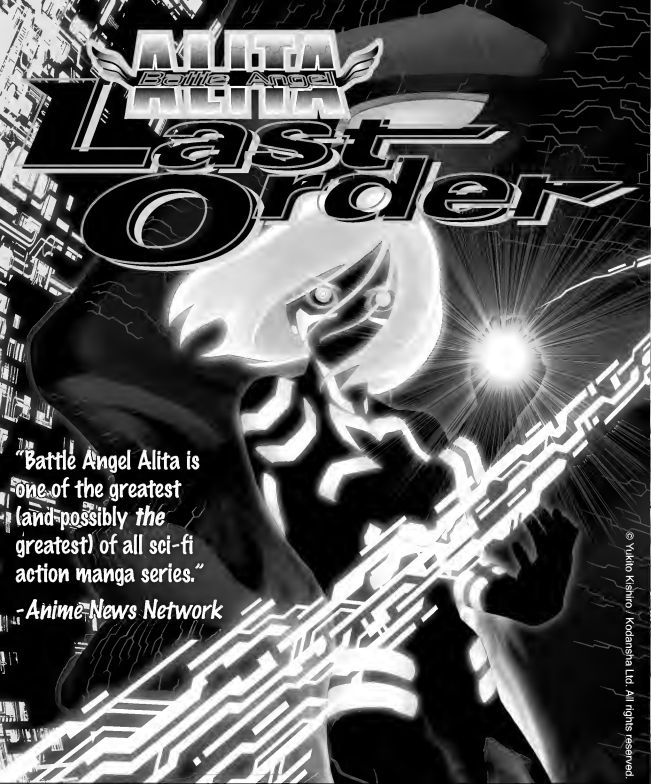


**Winner
of a 2011
Kodansha Manga
Award**

Humanity has been decimated!

A century ago, the bizarre creatures known as Titans devoured most of the world's population, driving the remainder into a walled stronghold. Now, the appearance of an immense new Titan threatens the few humans left, and one restless boy decides to seize the chance to fight for his freedom, and the survival of his species!

KC
KODANSHA
COMICS



"Battle Angel Alita is
one of the greatest
(and possibly *the*
greatest) of all sci-fi
action manga series."

- *Anime News Network*

© Yukito Kishiro / Kodansha Ltd. All rights reserved.

The Cyberpunk Legend is Back!

In deluxe omnibus editions of 600+ pages,
including ALL-NEW original stories by
Alita creator Yukito Kishiro!
Vol. 1 Coming March 2013



MARDOCK

マルドゥック・スクランブル

SCRAMBLE

Created by
Tow Ubukata



Manga by
Yoshitoki Oima

"I'd rather be dead"

Rune Balot was a lost girl with nothing to live for. A man named Shell took her in and cared for her...until he tried to murder her. Standing at the precipice of death Rune is saved by Dr. Easter, a private investigator, who uses an experimental procedure known as "Mardock Scramble 09."

The procedure grants Balot extraordinary abilities. Now, Rune must decide whether to use her new powers to help Dr. Easter bring Shell to justice, or if she even has the will to keep living a life that's been broken so badly.



Ages: 16+



VISIT KODANSHACOMICS.COM TO:

- View release date calendars for upcoming volumes
- Find out the latest about upcoming Kodansha Comics series

NEGIMA!

MAGISTER NEGI MAGI

BY KEN AKAMATSU

Negi Springfield is a ten-year-old wizard teaching English at an all-girls Japanese school. He dreams of becoming a master wizard like his legendary father, the Thousand Master. At first his biggest concern was concealing his magic powers, because if he's ever caught using them publicly, he thinks he'll be turned into an ermine! But in a world that gets stranger every day, it turns out that the strangest people of all are Negi's students! From a librarian with a magic book to a centuries-old vampire, from a robot to a ninja, Negi will risk his own life to protect the girls in his care!



Ages: 16+

Special extras in each volume! Read them all!



VISIT WWW.KODANSHACOMICS.COM TO:

- View release date calendars for upcoming volumes
- Find out the latest about new Kodansha Comics series

AIRGEAR

BY OH!GREAT

Itsuki Minami needs no introduction—everybody's heard of the "Babyface" of the Eastside. He's the strongest kid at Higashi Junior High School, easy on the eyes but dangerously tough when he needs to be. Plus, Itsuki lives with the mysterious and sexy Noyamano sisters. Life's never dull, but it becomes downright dangerous when Itsuki leads his school to victory over vindictive Westside punks with gangster connections. Now he stands to lose his school, his friends, and everything he cares about. But in his darkest hour, the Noyamano girls give him an amazing gift, one that just might help him save his school: a pair of Air Trecks. These high-tech skates are more than just supercool. They'll enable Itsuki to execute the wildest, most aggressive moves ever seen—and introduce him to a thrilling and terrifying new world.



Ages: 16 +

Special extras in each volume! Read them all!



VISIT WWW.KODANSHACOMICS.COM TO:

- View release date calendars for upcoming volumes
- Find out the latest about new Kodansha Comics series

BLOODY MONDAY

Story by

Ryou Ryumon

X

Art by

Kouji Megumi

Takagi Fujimaru may seem like a regular high school student, but behind the cheery facade lies a genius hacker by the name of Falcon.

When his father is framed for a murder, Falcon uses his brilliant hacking skills to try and protect his sister and clear his father's name.

BLOODY MONDAY



Story by Ryou Ryumon
Art by Kouji Megumi

Special extras in each volume! Read them all!

VISIT WWW.KODANSHACOMICS.COM TO:

- View release date calendars for upcoming volumes
- Find out the latest about new Kodansha Comics series

RATING OT AGES 13+

KC
KODANSHA
COMICS

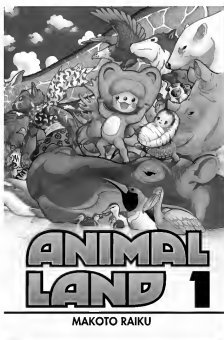
ANIMAL LAND

MAKOTO RAIKU

WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE

In a world of animals
where the strong eat the weak,
Monoko the tanuki stumbles
across a strange creature
the like of which has never
been seen before -
a human baby!

While the newborn has no
claws or teeth to protect itself,
it does have the rare ability
to speak to and understand
all the different animal.



Special extras in each volume! Read them all!

VISIT WWW.KODANSHACOMICS.COM TO:

- View release date calendars for upcoming volumes
- Find out the latest about new Kodansha Comics series

RATING OT AGES 10+



Fairy Tail volume 24 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

A Kodansha Comics Trade Paperback Original.

Fairy Tail volume 24 copyright © 2010 Hiro Mashima
English translation copyright © 2013 Hiro Mashima

All rights reserved.

Published in the United States by Kodansha Comics, an imprint of Kodansha USA Publishing, LLC, New York.

Publication rights for this English edition arranged through Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

First published in Japan in 2010 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo
ISBN 978-1-61262-266-8

Printed in the United States of America.

www.kodanshacomics.com

9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Translator: William Flanagan
Lettering: AndWorld Design

TOMARE!



You're going the wrong way!

Manga is a completely different
type of reading experience.

To start at the *beginning*,
go to the *end*!

That's right! Authentic manga is read the traditional Japanese way—from right to left, exactly the *opposite* of how American books are read. It's easy to follow: Just go to the other end of the book and read each page—and each panel—from right side to left side, starting at the top right. Now you're experiencing manga as it was meant to be!